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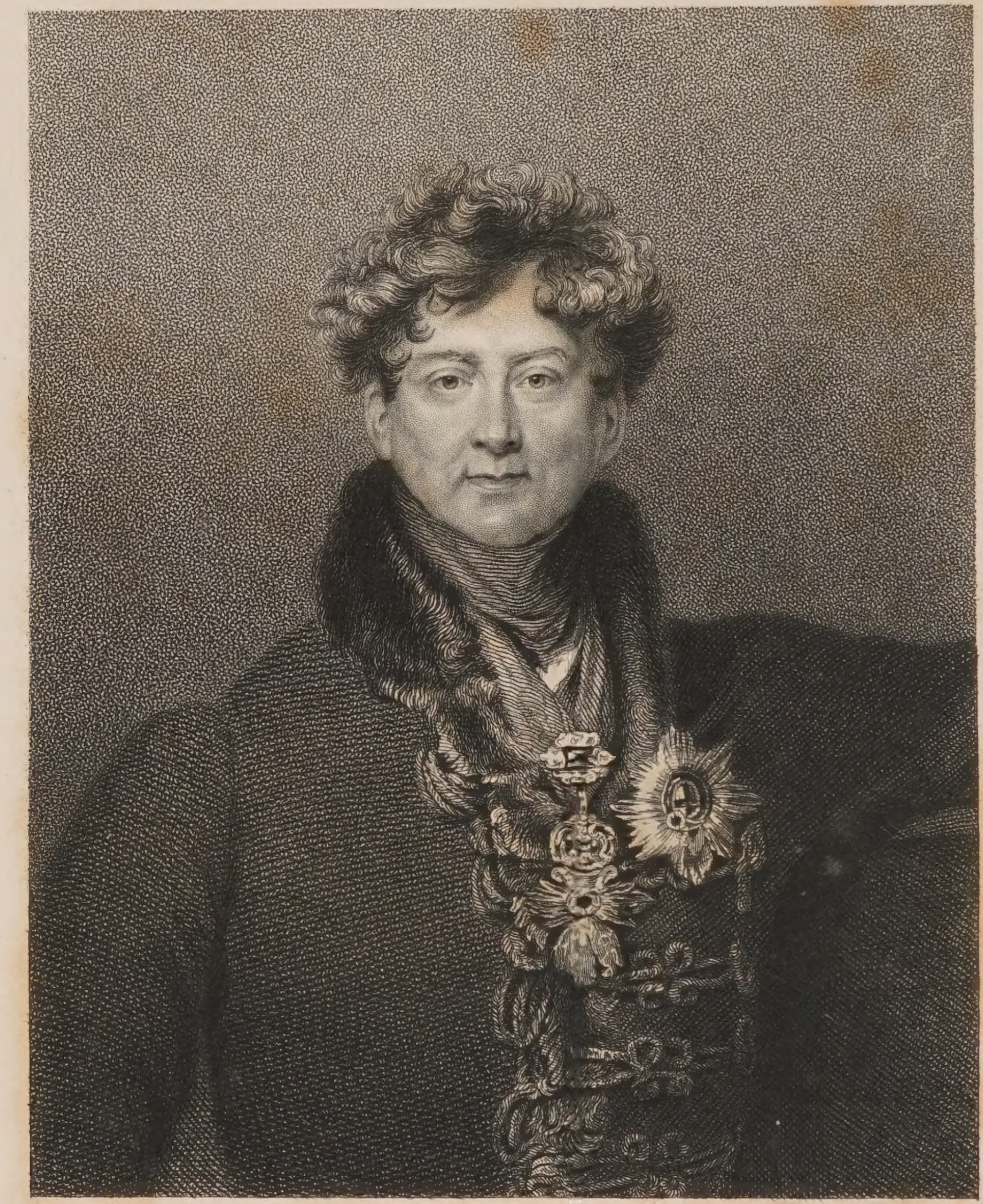

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HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, GEORGE-AUGUSTUS-FREDERICK, THE FOURTH.

George R

FISHER, SON, & Co. LONDON, 1831.

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NATIONAL
PORTRAIT GALLERY
OF
ILLUSTRIOUS AND EMINENT PERSONAGES
OF THE
NINETEENTH CENTURY;

WITH MEMOIRS, BY WILLIAM JERDAN, ESQ. F.S.A.
M.R.S.L. M.R.A.S. ETC.

DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION, TO
THE KING.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
FISHER, SON, & JACKSON, NEWGATE STREET.
1831.

~~Gallery~~

~~BYB. 41. AA8~~

ADDRESS.

On presenting this Second Volume of the National Portrait Gallery in a complete form to the Public, we rejoice to express our gratitude for the very flattering encouragement with which our efforts have been rewarded. Approbation from those whose praise it is indeed honorable to merit, and a continual progress in the extent of our circulation, so marked as to afford us the assurance of being generally acceptable to the lovers of literature and the arts—are circumstances which, while they recompense past, animate to future exertions.

It does not consist with the spirit of a work which is only anxious to deserve well, that it should resort to professions, or have recourse to that system of boast, which is but too much employed to catch popularity. We trust, however, it will not be considered unbecoming in us to state, that we have spared no pains, to make our biographies correct and authentic—no endeavours, to procure and perpetuate the best class of portraits. To the former, every means of inquiry within our power has been directed; to the latter, the employment of distinguished artists has, in almost every individual instance, effectually contributed.

As Publishers of a production claiming to be a NATIONAL one, we can say, with pride and satisfaction, that the most common observation upon it, which has ever reached us, has been, that *it was only too cheap.* If we mend a very little in this respect, (partly to cover our great increase in expense,) we trust we shall also improve in every other; so that at the end of many years we may still have to hear the same encomiums, and accompanied by no greater objection.

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⁎⁎⁎ The Portrait of His Majesty George IV. to face the Title, and his Memoir to be placed first in this Vol.—The Dedication, in Part 17, to follow the Title, before the Address.

HIS LATE MAJESTY

GEORGE THE FOURTH,

OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,

KING,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

Our late illustrious Monarch has not been numbered with the dead ten short months, and yet what an age of oblivion seems to have passed over us! A new King, a new Court, all Europe perplexed with the aspect of fearful change, and our own country absorbed in national questions of the most vital consequence.—This is a striking lesson, for humanity to learn how soon the mighty who fall can be forgotten, amid the cares and turmoil of the surviving multitude.

Already has the press thrown out its various biographies of George the Fourth—in splendid diction, in political bias, in common-place, in ignorance and error, and in shameless malice—but all the writers have laboured under the same disadvantage: where truth has been their object, their view was too near to comprehend the whole, and too partial to be just. Future history alone can present to the world the character of our magnificent Sovereign, as it really existed, and ought to be contemplated: when the near period of trifles, and anecdotes, and fallacies, and misrepresentations, has been cleared of its encumbrances, the lasting monument will be seen in all its magnitude and splendour, and the petty microscopic criticisms of contemporary littleness will be lost in the grand and dazzling circle of glory, which surrounds the twenty-years' reign of our Regent and King.

But we are ourselves in the very position to which we have alluded, and we cannot pretend more than others to the ability of drawing a fair and accurate likeness of his late Majesty. The facts of his life it would be easy to repeat from the common chronicles of the times; but the lights which illustrate them, the springs, the circumstances, the motives, the controlling causes, on which the actions of the high as well as of the low depend, are yet to be revealed to the acute, the patient, and the impartial investigator. What will be the result upon minute and insulated points, we know not; but we feel convinced, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that for all the great qualities of man and monarch, in heart and in head, the memory of George the Fourth will deserve to be cherished by generations of Britons yet unborn. Under his sceptre England rose to a height of prosperity and renown so transcendent, that we are forced to look upon it, in the midst of our exultation, with a mingled degree of dread lest it should be the topmost tower and pinnacle of our country's proud elevation.

We will not, however, enlarge upon the topics connected either with the personal or political career of the King: with a few words and dates devoted to the principal events, we trust we shall better consult the taste of our readers, by devoting our brief memoir to the notice of his munificent patronage of literature and the arts. Wars, and victories, and treaties, and legislation, and courtly paraphernalia, are the usual landmarks by which the reign of every prince may be traced; but the few who cultivate and promote those things which adorn civilization, who are the friends to learning, to science, and to the fine arts, seek and find a far more honored and imperishable fame. Among these, George the Fourth occupies a pre-eminent station. But before we enter upon the subject, we give, as proposed, a mere sketch of the Royal life.

George Augustus Frederick was born in St. James's Palace on the 12th of August, 1762, and was brought up with all the anxious attention due to one of so high a destiny, upon whose character it was likely that the happiness of millions might depend. It has been held by many writers, that the restraints of his education were more strict than judicious; but it is a difficult matter to determine, *à posteriori*, whether the ebullitions of temperament, rank, and youth were excited or repressed by habits of previous order and discipline. Be this as it might, the Prince, relieved from tutelage, rushed with headlong avidity into the dissipations so profusely spread before him. The fabled example of Hercules, it was not his fate to follow; perhaps, in the real world it would have been too much to expect that it should. At all events, he must be a rigid censor indeed, who, calmly and candidly weighing the whole case, can severely blame him for yielding to the magic allurements of pleasure. At the age of eighteen, the first memorable draught of the cup of Circe was openly quaffed, in an amour with the celebrated Perdita, Mrs. Mary Robinson, a lovely though misguided woman; but, according to our slight and limited plan, with such connexions we have fortunately little concern.

At the age of twenty-one, the Prince was one of the most elegant and accomplished men in Europe. In person and countenance eminently handsome, in manners fascinating, and richly gifted in the endowments of mind; he was a well-read classical scholar, conversant with polite literature, and spoke with fluency several of the living languages; his taste was refined, and in music he was not only a skilful amateur, but an excellent performer. What a scene must society have unfolded to such a being!—we can hardly look back through the long vista of time upon it, through the funeral gloom of Windsor Castle in April last, and not wonder that the intoxication and delusion of the hour were not even greater than they were.

But we proceed with our dates. In early times, extravagance, it must be admitted, frequently embarrassed the Prince's affairs, and the grant of means to relieve them came under parliamentary discussion. During the first illness of his Father, his political friends made a strenuous effort to have the supreme authority of the state vested in him, but it was successfully resisted by Mr. Pitt. In process of time, an accommodation of the principles which created differences in the Royal Family was effected, and his Royal Highness, on the 8th of April, 1795, was married to his cousin, the Princess Caroline of Brunswick—a union ultimately productive of intolerable wretchedness to the parties, and of much moral injury and danger to England.

On the 7th of January of the following year, the Princess Charlotte was born; and immediately afterwards, the Prince and Princess of Wales virtually separated, though their mutual aversion did not become notorious till 1804, when the right to the guardianship and charge of their interesting daughter involved a contest of greater discord and acrimony. The result is well known; his Majesty undertook the care of the child, and her mother retired from the palace to a country residence. 1805 and 1806 were painfully distinguished by the rumours of misconduct on the part of her Royal Highness, and the proceedings of the Commission appointed to inquire into their validity. The Princess was in the end partially and equivocally restored to her station; but it was only to be made the miserable tool of party, and to suffer the most mortifying indignities, till, in August, 1814, she quitted the country, for the relief of foreign travel.

On the 2nd of May, 1816, the Princess Charlotte married Prince Leopold, and died in giving birth to a dead child on the 6th of November, 1817; a calamity which produced a strong and lasting impression upon her bereaved Father.

In June, 1820, a few months after he had ascended the throne, his tranquillity was farther invaded by the hostile return of the Queen. The ferment which ensued can never be forgotten. For more than twelve months the land was a prey to disorder and faction; and the most appalling consequences were but too justly apprehended. The coronation of the King, however, was appointed for the 19th of July, 1821, on which solemn occasion his Consort was excluded from the ceremony. Stung with rage and disappointment, she endeavoured to force an entrance, but found herself deserted by the fickle populace, whose love of the gorgeous spectacle readily overcame their attachment to their idol of the preceding week. She never rallied from this neglect, and was happily released by death from all her sorrows on the 7th of the ensuing month of August; and from this date only could it be thought that the King, notwithstanding the glories which had shed such brilliant lustre on his government, enjoyed comparative repose. The thorn had rankled in his breast amid the loftiest and the sweetest hours of gratification, when entertaining the rulers of the earth, or meeting the loyal affections of his people; that thorn was now removed for ever, and, like the steed relieved from an intolerable burden, he appeared to resume his course with renovated spirit and energy. Before we mention his immediate visit to Ireland, we will bring up the train of public affairs, which we have overstepped in this summary of family history.

On the second illness of George the Third, the regency question was again debated, and the final determination of the Lords and Commons placed the reins of government in the hands of the Heir-apparent, with certain temporary restrictions. On the 5th of February, 1811, his Royal Highness assumed this authority, and continued his Father's ministers in office. Within about three months, their chief, Mr. Perceval, was assassinated; but neither that melancholy event, nor the succession to the unrestricted Regency in 1812, led to any alteration in the policy of the country. Every measure prospered in his hands. 1814 will ever be remarkable in our history for the visit of the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, the Heroes who had fought their battles against universal despotism, and the enlightened Statesmen and Princes of the Continent—nor less for the magnificence with which they were entertained by One, who well understood how to maintain the dignity and illustrate the hospitality of Great Britain. 1815 was crowned by the victory of Waterloo, in which the glories of Agincourt and Cressy were revived. On the 29th of January, 1820, it pleased the Almighty to take the venerable and venerated George the Third, after nearly ten years' seclusion from his grateful subjects; and on the same day his successor was proclaimed. In July, 1821, as we have noticed, his coronation took place; and three weeks after, his Majesty sailed for Ireland. His reception was most animating: immediately on his return he again embarked for Calais, whence he travelled to his German dominions, and was crowned King of Hanover. In the ensuing year, 1822, Scotland was honoured and delighted with a similar visit; and no description can paint the popular and national enthusiasm created by these royal progresses. Every device which loyalty and heartfelt attachment could invent was lavished on each occasion; and never was seen in any country a more cheering spectacle of a united King and People.

We stop for one moment to observe, that whether it apply to the Princes to whom we have referred; to our northern Bard, the first poet of the age; to the eminent Painter, whom we have recently lost; to Canova, the celebrated sculptor, who visited this country in 1815; or to any other person eminent in arts or in literature—he gratified them all by the graceful manner of his reception, and by the taste and tact which he evinced in adapting his conversation to those subjects with which they were best acquainted.

From the period of his visit to Scotland, his Majesty, probably from experiencing some of the inconveniences and infirmities of age, courted retirement, and seldom appeared in public. Thus nearly eight years rolled on, and at length the time appointed came—that time when the crowned monarch and the lowly hind are equal. Upon his last birth-day, his Majesty, with filial piety, laid the foundation for a monument, surmounted by an equestrian statue, to the memory of his revered Father, at the end of that magnificent avenue, usually called the Long Walk of Windsor Park. On the 12th of April, he himself rode for the last time in that beautiful domain. Thence to the 26th of June he suffered much bodily pain with fortitude, equanimity, and resignation; and about three o'clock of the morning of that day, in consequence of bursting a blood-vessel, he expired, exclaiming faintly, "This is Death."

Having shortly traced the chequered events of his late Majesty's political and personal course, we now address ourselves to the unclouded view of his bright career, as connected with the humanities of life, and the patronage of all that ennobles our nature. It is, perhaps, one of the chief blots upon the long line of illustrious Sovereigns who have worn the Crown of England, that so very few have been distinguished by the love of letters and the arts. Glorious warriors, chivalrous and heroic knights, sagacious and prudent statesmen, amiable men, and prosperous rulers, we can boast, to an extent not surpassed by any other nation in the world; but an Alfred and an Edward are all that can be mentioned, from the foundation of the monarchy to the period of the Stuarts, with reference to those illustrious qualifications, which plant the brightest and most lasting gems in the kingly coronet. The period of the unfortunate race of the Stuarts, whatever were their political sins, is proudly pre-eminent in the annals of history, for the encouragement of every refining pursuit. In Scotland, ere they reached the united crown, they adorned the age with literature and poesy. And in England we have only to look around, and say of them, as was said of the immortal architect whom they patronized, "Si monumentum quæris, circumspice." From St. Paul's, to Whitehall and Greenwich, how many noble edifices proclaim their taste and magnificence! Less obvious to the general view, the admirable sculpture of the same epoch is to be found in many public and private places; and the memory of the painters' art is yet widely preserved, in despite of that calamity which dispersed the splendid collection of the first Charles. After the death of his son, a century almost blank, as regards the progress or even the cultivation of the fine arts, ensued.

Under George the Third they began to revive. The Royal Academy was established with the countenance and favour of his Majesty; and artists, of high genius and well-deserved celebrity, sprung up to assert the claims of Britain to an honorable rank among civilized nations. Instead of an unfrequent and insulated individual, rising merely as it were to keep alive the spark of a native school, the country saw with pride and satisfaction, a numerous and congregated body of great and various talents, producing works of every class which could illustrate the leading walks of art. The grandeur of design, the magic of colour, the sweetness of landscape, the potent lessons of moral humour and satire, the finish of familiar life, the technical skill of chiaro-scuro' composition, and all the accessaries to effect, were exhibited in a style not surpassed by contemporary effort, even in those countries where the arts had been held to flourish for ages. This was a triumph to England; but still much was wanting to fill up its measure, and that was achieved by his late Majesty George the Fourth.

From his infant years, the same inherent and natural taste which made him the elegant scholar, the accomplished musician, the connoisseur of all that was graceful and correct, no matter to what these principles applied, grew with his growth and strengthened with his strength; so that when the opportunity presented itself, and the power was possessed, he at once became the zealous and enlightened patron of the arts—and the arts prospered accordingly.

It is a striking speculation to revert to their progress during only a few years, and within the memory of most of their living professors and friends. We will not institute invidious comparisons between the men of our present day, and those of the preceding generation who have passed away, leaving imperishable proofs of their genius, to show either that the arts have advanced or retrograded; but we appeal to the general intelligence, spirit, and feeling spread throughout the whole community, as a surprising evidence of the prodigious stride made in this respect within the last quarter of a century. Thirty years ago it would have been difficult to find among the best informed of the upper classes, among the peers and principal commoners of the land, one in ten who had any competent knowledge of, or relish for, the productions of the pencil, the chisel, or the burin—now, there is hardly a person in the middle ranks of society, who does not take an interest in these works, and possess some acquaintance with their characteristics and qualities. It would be too much to insist on the universal diffusion of learned and critical discrimination; but the love of the arts, thus generated in every quarter, has already wonderfully improved the common judgment, and it must, as time proceeds, still farther enlarge the circle of pure enjoyment which emanates from this source.

So early as the year 1800, the Prince of Wales commissioned the Rev. Mr. Hayter to go to Naples, for the purpose of unrolling and transcribing manuscripts of papyri, discovered among the excavations of Herculaneum and Pompeii, and placed at his disposal by the King of Naples. It is true, that the experiments were not very successful, for only six rolls were unfolded, and they contained nothing of any interest, except a fragment of Epicurus. The means of deciphering these documents have since been somewhat improved, but still the majority of them defy the utmost care of the investigator, although the science of Sir Humphrey Davy, and the appliances of chemistry, have been exerted, to aid his patient labour. The Prince presented four of the Portici rolls, brought home by his agent, to the University of Oxford; which, as a mark of its respect and gratitude, conferred the degree of Doctor of Civil Law upon His Royal Highness.

But the chief act to which we are inclined to attribute a great proportion of the marked progress made in our school of arts, and for which we are indebted to his late Majesty, was the foundation and cordial patronage of the British Institution. To this institution he was from the first an ardent friend and a liberal contributor. Under his protection the Marquis of Stafford, Lord Aberdeen, Lord Farnborough, and other eminent amateurs who matured the plan, were enabled to take their stand upon elevated ground, and the Gallery started at once an important and effective national concern. Our rising artists found here the noblest works of the old masters, from the royal and other collections, generously offered for them to study with every facility and advantage; and their own performances, inspired and improved by access to the best examples, had also here a theatre to incite competition, and a mart to secure reward. Emulation and encouragement have gone hand in hand, and every observer of the subject must be conscious how much of our present palmy state we owe to the British Institution.

Another and a memorable boon was conferred upon our fine arts in 1824, by the formation of a National Gallery. At the suggestion of the King, the splendid collection of Mr. Angerstein was purchased for the country; and a most auspicious commencement was made of an establishment which we might blush to think we had been so long behind other nations in accomplishing. Inferior and poor governments, all over the Continent of Europe, were familiar with what England, notwithstanding all her riches and power, had neglected: it was for her patriot King to redeem her from this scandal.

Hitherto, but the period is comparatively short, the National Gallery has not, with one or two gratifying exceptions,* taken the prominent course we anticipated. There should have been a magnificent receptacle opened for the exhibition of the nation's property in art, to the people and to foreigners. Instead of this, a private house, ill-lighted, and every way unsuited to the display, has been assigned for this purpose; and at one time, from the alterations making in its vicinity, it was in danger of falling, and burying all it contained in its rubbish. Assuredly, we yield to strange ideas in matters of this kind. We have here a collection of great worth, which would be increased by continual and invaluable donations, worthy of a happy pilgrimage, to travel from the farthest corners of the earth to see it. We have public ground unoccupied in the fittest parts of the Metropolis, or a palace, such as Buckingham House, ready for its reception; yet, with a parsimony not to be reconciled with comprehensive policy, the whole grand prospect is sacrificed to the mere expedients of temporary legislation. We trust, that when the ferment of the moment is over, William the Fourth will direct and witness the completion of what George the Fourth so wisely and gloriously began; and which was also a favourite project of his revered Father, George the Third.

* Sir George Beaumont's bequest of sixteen fine paintings, and gifts from private individuals, &c. are the best comment on this point; and no one can doubt, had the National Gallery existed, but that the Dulwich and Fitzwilliam collections would have enriched it. While we are writing, we hear that a more splendid collection of Italian pictures, of the old masters, has been bequeathed to the nation by the late Mr. Holwell Carr.

We have mentioned, in the early part of this memoir, that, in the younger period of his life, George the Fourth was considered extravagant, and that his pecuniary affairs had become embarrassed in consequence; his enemies have also applied, though unjustly, the same accusation to his more mature years; but they have omitted to accompany such accusations with that which, even if they had been true, would surely have been a sufficient palliative—that the greater part of his expense was appropriated to purposes in which the national interest was more considered than any private gratification of his own. He made by his own good taste, assisted, we believe, with the advice of Lord Farnborough, one of the finest collections of the works of the Dutch and Flemish school, that is now to be found in Europe. "We have lost," he used to say, "the magnificent collection of Charles the First; I will do what I can to supply its place:" and when this beautiful assemblage of works of art had been completed, "I have not formed it," he observed, "for my own pleasure alone, but to gratify the public taste, and lay before the artist the best specimens for his study." It was accordingly exhibited for two years successively, at the Gallery of the British Institution, and it will descend, as the property of the crown, to our future Sovereigns. We have heard with great satisfaction, that our present gracious King, William the Fourth, has had under consideration the best mode of exhibiting it for the benefit of the public.

But, however we may approve of forming such collections, we should not have felt that George the Fourth deserved that full meed of praise, which is so justly due to him, if his views had not been directed still more to the encouragement of native talent, than to the possession of the productions of ancient masters, however judiciously selected. Upon this point we might refer to the names of Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir Thomas Lawrence, Mr. Wilkie, Mr. Bone, Mr. Chantrey, Mr. Westmacott, and to many others, sculptors, painters, and architects, who produced their finest works under the influence of his munificent patronage.

But grand designs, however becoming in a monarch, and however beneficial, even in a commercial and mercantile light, to the country, are not the surest indications of his genuine affection for the fine arts. The bounty of George the Fourth flowed in a thousand streams, as well as in the abundance of these magnificent rivers. Where the individual artist showed superior talent, or where the unfortunate artist fell a prey to distress, the Majesty of England, toiling beneath all the burdens of empire, was curiously apt to hear the whisper of promise in the one, and the sigh of misfortune in the other. How many instances could we cite, of his cheering on the former by praise and essential encouragement—of his lifting up the latter from the abyss of wretchedness, by truly royal succour.

We have read with pain several estimates of his late Majesty's character, given forth with pretensions of the utmost candour and justice; but we declare we have not discovered in one of them an honest statement of his illustrious humanity in this respect. The writers appear to have been ignorant of the facts, ignorant of a disposition which would have redeemed even a tyrant from obloquy, but which only added a splendour to our patriot Sovereign. Whatever might intervene between George the Fourth and his impulses, (and kings cannot control events,) we will assert a truth, to which future history will do justice, that in his first impressions and emotions there never was a heart more generous and good than that of the Monarch to whom these remarks apply.

It was in the minute as well as in the superb, that the King shone; and in estimating the actions of a sovereign, we could wish it to be observed, that it is far more trite to perform what is great than what is simply benevolent. The one is an affair of state; the other is the man! The whole life of George the Fourth was brilliant with these delightful traits. Having read in a literary journal, that Muss, the celebrated enamel painter, had died poor, and left a widow in limited circumstances; he ascertained the fact, and on the following day sent her fifteen hundred pounds for the copy of a picture. He heard of the monument proposed to be erected to the memory of our mechanical boast, James Watt, and immediately gave five hundred pounds to the design. The head of a people, whose manufactures pervade the habitable globe, could not miss such an opportunity of evincing a community of sentiment in honor of worth and intelligence.

With equal liberality and right feeling, he himself ordered a monument to be erected at St. Germain's, where the bones of James the Second were transferred to a final tomb. When the famous sculptor, Canova, visited England, his Majesty received him most graciously, and gave him a commission for a Mausoleum to Cardinal York, the last of this ill-fated family—and for a number of beautiful sculptures. And in 1815, when the conquered treasures of the Louvre were restored to their original possessors, the disinterested and princely nature of our King was manifested in a way of which his people might well be proud. That statue which astonishes the world, the Apollo, was placed at the disposal of his Majesty, partly in gratitude for services of inestimable import, and partly from the difficulty of re-conveying it to Italy; and though it was a prize to be envied by the whole world, our magnanimous Sovereign not only refused the gift, but undertook the task of having it safely transported to the site of its old inspiration.

We record these few, of many cases, not as demanding for them a homage more than is due, but merely to illustrate the character of the Prince, whose spontaneous feelings ever led him to do that which was intrinsically virtuous and extrinsically glorious. In the same spirit he took a warm interest in all the benevolent Institutions for the support of decayed artists. In the same spirit, he munificently contributed to that blessed charity, "The Literary Fund," through which the miseries of the unfortunate children of the pen are so promptly and prudently relieved.* In the same spirit, he in 1822 gave his support to the project of a National Record of our Military Achievements, to be embellished with all that art could perform.* In the same spirit, in 1823, he sanctioned the address from Parliament for the reprint of a series of our ancient historians. In the same spirit, in 1825, he awarded two royal medals, annually, to the Royal Society, as premiums to promote the objects of the Institution—they were to reward the most useful discoveries, or series of investigations, completed to the satisfaction of the President and Council, within the preceding year.

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* His late Majesty gave two hundred guineas annually to this benevolent Institution; and we lament to hear that his present Majesty has been obliged to reduce the grant to one-half, as well as to postpone its date.

But why should we record these instances:—wherever the fine arts, wherever the sciences, wherever literature, wherever charity and benevolence, wherever objects of public utility were concerned, George the Fourth was at their head and in their heart. His was not mere nominal patronage, but an inquisitive and well-regulated sympathy; promoting, with the weight of the crown, all that was really good, and judiciously abating what was undeserving. And let it be understood, that no ministers or advisers of a king can do thus—it must depend upon himself. To play so laudable a part, he must be able to penetrate deeply into the motives of men, through the mists of his high and distant position; and after he has solved the mysteries of seeming, he must feel rightly, to act as George the Fourth acted, winning the love and applause of all within the sphere of his gracious kindnesses, ever rendered doubly grateful by the manner in which they were conferred.

Adverting more particularly to his Majesty's wish to advance the learning of England, we ought to distinguish the foundation of the Royal Society of Literature, which originated entirely in his own breast, and which he so nobly endowed. Convinced that with all our institutions for the promotion of distinct branches of knowledge, and with all the public encouragement of well-digested schemes of improvement, there was yet ample room for a royal and beneficial association directed to purposes to which no preceding body or common principle applied; his Majesty communicated to the venerable Bishop of Salisbury his desire to form a Society of this description. From 1821 to the present time, approved and sustained by its illustrious founder, the Society has laid the ground-work of a lasting prosperity ; and through the beneficence of the Crown has been enabled to grant at once an honor and a recompense to ten of the most distinguished authors of the age, to whom a hundred guineas each per annum has been assigned from the fund of eleven hundred guineas vested in the Institution by the King. The remaining hundred guineas is expended on two golden medals, also annually voted to individuals who have produced some work of distinguished literary genius.

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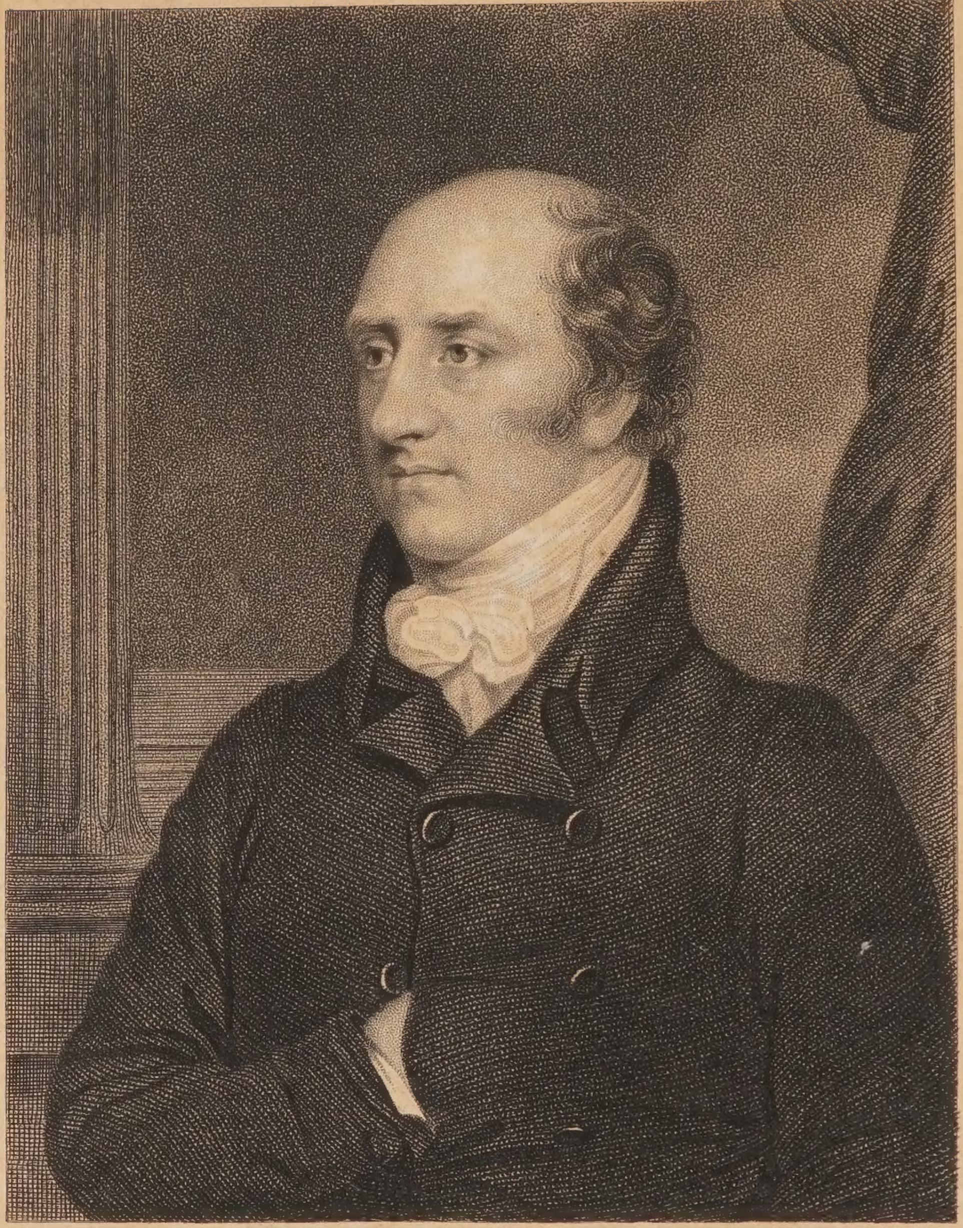
* We know not what has become of this design.

From what we have stated, it will be seen that his late Majesty must have expended a large revenue upon the cultivation of the arts and literature ; and it is worthy of remark, that during all the recent parliamentary discussion of the civil list, not one syllable was uttered, either on one side or the other, in reference to this fact. Considering, as we do, such grants to be the brightest jewels in the monarch's crown, and the only true essentials of popularity and fame, we could not help being astonished at their exclusion from these debates. Earnestly do we hope that this does not portend any limitation of the Sovereign, to prevent his continuing in the splendid career of his predecessor. Such deeds are not kingly pleasures, so much as they are national benefits; and every well-informed subject must pray that no miserable and short-sighted economy may ever deprive Great Britain of those Corinthian features, which are not more the ornament than the strength of a people. We have expressed our sorrow that William the Fourth should have been under the necessity of reducing the royal patronage of the Literary Fund, (we trust it is only temporary, till the civil list is settled ;) but we rejoice to know that Mr. Peel intimated to the Royal Society of Literature, his Majesty's intention to follow in the footsteps of its founder, his munificent brother, with regard to its endowment.

Another of the acts of his late Majesty, which will be a lasting memorial to his glory, was the present to the nation of the valuable and extensive Library, formed by his revered Father. Upwards of sixty-five thousand volumes, besides numerous pamphlets and tracts of geography and topography, were accordingly transferred to the British Museum, where a building worthy of the gift has been prepared for their reception. In this also, his Majesty's love of literature and of his country was conspicuously evinced—but why should we dwell on details, since his whole reign exhibited the same enlightened principles in one continued flow.

In victory by sea and land, in political aggrandisement, in wise legislation, his ministers may share the glory; but in the encouragement of our native arts, in the patronage of literature, in the advance of science, and, above all, in the exercise of those feelings of humanity and benevolence which flow from the heart, George the Fourth stands alone entitled, in his own person and memory, to the love and admiration of his people.



Painted by T. Stewardson. Engraved by W^{m} Holl.

THE RIGHT HON^{BLE} GEORGE CANNING.

Geo Canning

FISHER, SON & C^{o} LONDON, 1830.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

GEORGE CANNING.

THREE years have not yet elapsed since the grave closed over the mortal remains of the Right Honorable GEORGE CANNING, who died in the possession of the highest power to which a British subject can aspire, and who raised himself to that pre-eminent station by the possession and exercise of such noble human qualities, and transcendent talents, as rarely fall to the lot of man. He was indeed illustrious from the hand of Nature; and his career through life, his youthful distinctions, his political glories, and his splendid consummation of all that a just ambition could covet or desire, were alike worthy of this heaven-gifted origin. From the dawn of his intellect to the final extinction of its light, he continually ascended till he reached the "lofty top;"—his was the upward course of true genius bounding in native energy from the earth, penetrating the denser clouds that darken on its surface, soaring into day, and at last shedding from the highest region a benign and potent influence on the multitude who remain below in grateful admiration of the guiding star.

But it is ours to trace with less of enthusiasm the mortal history of this immortal individual; and, filled with many sad and mournful recollections, revived by the task, we proceed to discharge that duty to the best of our humble ability, conscious that if ever apology were necessary, it is on such an occasion, and that he must be a master spirit of this wide world, who shall give it an adequate biography of our lost and lamented Minister.

The ancestors of George Canning were originally of Warwickshire, whence the branch from which he sprung was, so long ago as the close of the sixteenth century, transplanted to Garvagh in Londonderry, where it flourished, like the original stock, in the rank of honorable gentility. In 1750, his grandfather, Stratford Canning, is mentioned as a person of respect and substance. He had three sons, George, Paul, and Stratford: Paul became a merchant in London, and was father of Lord Garvagh; Stratford was the father of the Right Hon.

Stratford Canning; and George, having passed through the forms, for they cannot be called studies, prescribed by the Middle Temple, became in due course a barrister-at-law. He was also a young man of warm temperament, a poet, and a writer of very considerable fancy and vigour; but these were not qualifications calculated to advance his professional fortunes; for the dry and technical details of cases ill accord with the sallies of imagination, or the ardour of poetical flights. With these feelings and habits, need we be surprised, that, instead of convincing judges, Mr. Canning persuaded a beautiful and accomplished woman, of inferior rank and fortune, to marry him, and made what is, in our state of society, often too truly called a love and imprudent match. Of this event immediate difficulties were the result, as the bride brought with her no portion, and the bridegroom, in consequence of offending his father, was reduced to an allowance of only £150 a year; one of those forgiving kindnesses, which are, perhaps, more cruel in practice and more fatal in effect, than the sterner alternative of throwing the offender entirely upon his own resources. Be this as it may, Mr. Canning struggled in vain against his unequal fate. Whatever efforts he made to improve his circumstances were unsuccessful; and on the first anniversary of his son's birth, namely, the 11th of April, 1771, he died, leaving two daughters, the subject of this Memoir, and their widowed mother, in a state of poverty and distress. Happily, however, the orphan boy was not friendless: he was taken by his uncle Paul, and brought up as his own; while his parent, impelled by her destitute condition, sought a competent subsistence, by employing her talents upon the stage. Her debut was made at Drury Lane in Jane Shore, under the auspices of her relation Mr. Sheridan, but without any decided eclat; though she afterwards played at Bath, and other places, with great success. Her second husband was Reddish, the celebrated Edgar, who died deranged; and his relict some years after found a protector in Mr. Hunn, a provincial performer, to whom she was united in marriage, without forfeiting any of those claims to esteem which are accorded either to good conduct in general, or to the constancy of a first fond, faithful, and virtuous attachment. The filial love of her son was a strong proof of this, and a marked and amiable trait of his character enduring nearly the whole period of his existence; a love not forgotten on the eve of his meeting with Lord Castlereagh, when a hurried will left her specifically to the charge of his executors. From his mother, if we believe the theory of intellectual endowments being chiefly derived from females, George Canning inherited what might well inspire gratitude and affection; though neither was he poor, in this respect, on his father's side. From the union of both he certainly did combine a rare grace and beauty of form and countenance, and a mind which no earthly tenement could be too admirable to lodge.

After the usual period of preparatory tuition, for which he was indebted to the Rev. Charles Richards, of Hyde Abbey School, near Winchester, George was sent to Eton School, and soon displayed those brilliant faculties which, from early youth to the completion of his race, so proudly distinguished him from contemporary competition. In 1786, he was captain of this famed establishment, and in the same year, November 6, produced No. 1. of the Microcosm, a periodical of greater promise and wit than ever before or since issued from the benches of a school-room.* In this paper his contributions, which were signed B., will ever remain extraordinary examples of youthful acuteness and judgment, joined to the more common qualifications of fanciful playfulness and ardent passion which seldom fail to adorn the young literary aspirant, whose soul is imbued with keen perceptions, and whose heart glows with strong natural fires. Among his other productions, a composition on " The Slavery of Greece" may deserve more especial notice, since his early impressions on that subject have been rendered memorable by the immense influence which his mature sentiments have had upon the regeneration of the country, and its being lifted once more, after the lapse of ages, to the rank of a free and independent nation. As a poem, this piece would almost induce us to lament that ever Mr. Canning left the Muses to become a Statesman, and sought to be a Pericles rather than a Homer. With a few of the blemishes invariably attached to youthful authorship, it possesses nerve, imagination, and feeling; all indications of future excellence, where it is not already attained.

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* With respect to the Microcosm, so curious as being chiefly the juvenile performance of an individual, who afterwards raised himself by his talents to so high a station, we were desirous of obtaining some further particulars, and the following is the answer to our inquiries, for which we are indebted to Mr. Charles Knight, the son of Mr. Knight of Windsor, who published the work.

"My father, in 1786, published the Microcosm in numbers. Canning, and John Smith, and Frere, were the principal contributors; and Canning was the editor. He was then about 17, an Oppidan (that is, not upon the Foundation) at Eton. My father used (I have heard him say) to take him the proofs before morning school; and Canning often saw him in his little bed-room, for the affair was for some time a mystery. The work was successful, for such a novel undertaking. My father gave the proprietors (Canning, Frere, and the two Smiths) £50 for the copy-right, after the first edition, which produced them some profit. My father used to say, that when he gave Canning the amount, he said, 'I have no doubt it is all right, but I know nothing whatever of figures.'"

> " Unrivalled Greece, thou ever honoured name,
> Thou nurse of heroes, dear to deathless fame!
> Though now to worth, to honour all unknown,
> Thy lustre faded, and thy glories flown;
> Yet still shall Memory, with reverted eye,
> Trace thy past worth, and view thee with a sigh."

As a boy, he thus mourned over prostrate Greece; as a man, he laboured, and not in vain, to raise the fallen to freedom and independence.

At the age of eighteen, Mr. Canning went to Christ Church, Oxford, where, among other lasting friendships, he formed that with Lord Liverpool, which, as we observed in the Memoir of his Lordship, was not only important to their own lives, but to the destinies of Europe. It was so intimate, that they were called " The inseparables," by their fellow-students; and each rejoiced in the academic honours and applause won by the other, as if the meed had been his own. Of these prizes Mr. Canning bore many away, and was as conspicuous for superior endowments at Oxford as he had previously been at Eton. Indeed, in every stage of his progress he displayed powers which led his relatives to cultivate them to the utmost, with the sure hope, that they must achieve the greatness of their possessor: his path of glory seemed to be early cut out, and his was an intelligence to follow it with irrepressible ardour and constancy to the end. In 1792, he took leave of his College, with his first degree,* and entered at Lincoln's Inn; but so much had he already attracted the eyes of eminent persons, that he was on terms of intimate acquaintance with Sheridan, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the leading Whig politicians of the time, who, with prescient acumen, endeavoured to enlist upon their side an ally so likely to be efficient in the wars of party. Though dazzled with the splendour that surrounded these extraordinary men, and his susceptible mind filled with admiration of a Burke, a Fox, a Sheridan, it happened that his connexion with Mr. Jenkinson prevailed in shaping his future life. He was introduced to Mr. Pitt, who, like his mighty rivals, could justly appreciate the value of such a supporter, and under his patronage was, in the year 1793, elected to represent the borough of Newport, Isle of Wight, in the parliament of Great Britain. The period was auspicious—the world was convulsed with strange events, and this country was deeply engaged in a struggle, unequalled for its political, physical, and moral magnitude. All was at stake, all was to be won or lost; and the rival opinions into which every nation, and the whole of civilized Europe, were divided, were maintained by advocates of the highest order, and wound up to the highest pitch of excitement and energy. It was among these that Canning now stood at the age of twenty-two, and yet with a reputation that gave him immediate consequence, and caused his efforts to be tried by no ordinary standard. But he was prudent as well as elate; his impatience was chastised by good sense, and though well equipped to rush a hero into the fight, he had the temperance to chuse a lower station, and content himself with being useful by steady conduct in the ranks, rather than noted for rash adventure in the field. And this mingling of sound judgment with chivalrous and even fiery daring, the characteristic of his first appearance in the great arena of public life, was ever after a marked feature in his public acts. With perhaps one or two slight exceptions, when the ebullitions of a sensitive, generous, warm, and noble nature—a nature almost romantic in the midst of oppressive business and arduous pursuits—burst out into momentary utterance; he was always as concentrated, calm, and guardedly comprehensive, as if he had been a plodder and a mere official. Be it remembered, too, that these instances to which we have alluded, if to microscopic understandings they impeached the head, never failed to shed a lustre about the heart.

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* On the 5th of July, 1794, he took the degree of M.A. his only other academic honour; and after that period discontinued residing at Christ Church, as he had hitherto occasionally done.

From 1793 to 1796, Mr. Canning sat in the House of Commons, rendering himself conversant with its forms and constitution, and without attempting any oratorical display, though in 1794 he replied with great spirit to Mr. Grey, on the third reading of the Habeas Corpus Suspension bill. In the latter year, he was appointed Under-Secretary of State; and, in 1797, returned for the Treasury borough of Wendover. He soon after delivered an eloquent speech in favour of the gradual extinction of the slave trade; in which philanthropy and wisdom, mercy and justice, were finely united; and another example afforded of the strenuous advocacy of true policy, prompted, but not dazzled, by virtuous enthusiasm. Right in the beginning, Mr. Canning adhered with perfect consistency to the same views of this interesting question, at all times when it was agitated; ever maintaining the humane and Christian principle of the abolition of slavery, and ever opposing the wild and dishonest attacks, which benevolent, but mistaken zeal, made upon sanctioned property and existing systems, threatening worse ills by their invasion and overthrow, than were comprised by their preservation and continuance.

It was at this epoch, 1797-8, that, principally in conjunction with Lord Hawkesbury, Mr. Frere, and Mr. George Ellis, (the former a coadjutor in the boyish Microcosm) Mr. Canning engaged in the production and publication of the Anti-Jacobin, or Weekly Examiner; a periodical of singular talent, and remarkable efficacy, in stemming the dangerous tide of politics, which then ran so high as to threaten the destruction of the British Constitution. Sparkling wit, biting satire, contemptuous ridicule, and stinging personal exhibitions, speedily raised this work into popularity and influence; nor were the sources of authentic information, powerful argument, or dexterous skill, wanting, to contribute to its prodigious success.* Unimposing as the appearance of a weekly sheet might be, it showed that, when conducted by ability and genius, even such an engine as this was capable of doing wonders for the cause which it espoused; and we may venture to say, that not all the strongest measures of the executive, the suspension of the Habeas Corpus act, the acts passed against seditious practices, the manifestation of military force, and the lifting up of the potent arm of the law, contributed more to repress and subdue the anarchical spirit of Jacobinism, than did this Journal, which made its actors ludicrous, its performances farcical, and its supporters infamous, not only by playful parody and caricature, in verse and prose, but by the sharp exposure of falsehoods, and the acute detection of sophistry. It was here that the longest poetical composition of Mr. Canning, "New Morality," amounting to nearly five hundred lines, was published, but it was the "Loves of the Triangles," in an earlier number, which completely established the fame of the paper in which it appeared. "New Morality" has been charged, by the opposite side, with profanation in parodying a portion of the sacred writings;* but its exquisite and dreadful cutting, now with a razor, and now with a tomahawk, will hand it down to posterity as an admired model of political and general satire. Looking at the circumstances of the times, and the opinions of the author, it must be acknowledged that the conclusion is at once patriotic and superb:—

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* A few particulars respecting this periodical cannot fail to interest our readers. The prospectus, a very able paper, was written by Mr. Canning; and a Dr. Grant was to have been editor. That gentleman, however, was taken ill on the eve of commencing his duties; and was compelled to relinquish the task. He sent for Mr. Wright, the publisher, who visited him on his death-bed, and received the embarrassing intelligence of his inability to proceed. With this news Mr. Wright hastened to Mr. Charles Long (Lord Farnborough;) and on being consulted as to the possibility of procuring a new and competent editor, on the spur of the moment, suggested Mr. William Gifford, the popular author of the Bœviad and Mœviad, who had warmly approved of the prospectus, if he could be prevailed upon to undertake the office. To this proposal Mr. Gifford listened, and it may be said that it was the tide in his affairs, which, being taken at the flood, led on to fortune. Within a week he was introduced to Mr. Canning, and formed a friendship which lasted to the end of his life; and it was also the means of recommending him to the personal favour of Mr. Pitt, from whom he received the handsome appointment of a double Commissioner for the Lotteries.—The contributers to the Anti-jacobin were wont to meet at each others' houses, and concoct the materials for their forthcoming numbers.—Messrs. Canning, Frere, and Ellis were the principal writers; and it is worthy of notice, that many of the articles were the joint productions of these three able men. The wit of Canning (by far the readiest of them all) was plentifully sprinkled over the Rovers of Weimar, designed and mostly composed by Mr. Frere. Even in "New Morality" we have reason to believe the pens of all the trio were employed; the latter portion of the Loves of the Triangles was by Mr. Canning. Mr. Pitt wrote on the Redemption of the Land Tax and other political subjects; Mr. Long, several excellent papers on Finance; and Lord Wellesley, some Latin verses. Mr. Gifford's own original contributions were not very conspicuous: the "Lies of the Day" were his. Mr. Canning gave some papers to the Quarterly Review, on National Education, &c.

To feebler nations let proud France afford
Her damning choice—the chalice or the sword—
To drink or die; oh, fraud! oh, specious lie!
Delusive choice! for *if* they drink, they die.
The sword we dread not: of ourselves secure,
Firm were our strength, our Peace and Freedom sure;
Let all the world confederate all its powers,
"Be they not backed by all that should be ours,"
High on his rock shall Britain's Genius stand,
Scatter the crowded hosts, and vindicate the land.
Guard we but our own hearts: with constant view
To ancient morals, ancient manners true,
True to the manlier virtues, such as nerved
Our fathers' breasts, and this proud isle preserved
For many a rugged age: and scorn the while—
Each philosophic Atheist's specious guile—
The soft seductions, the refinements nice,
Of gay morality, and easy vice:
So shall we brave the storm; our 'stablished power
Thy refuge, Europe, in some happier hour.—
But, French *in heart*—though victory crown our brow
Low at our feet though prostrate nations bow,
Wealth gild our cities, commerce crowd our shore—
London may shine, but England is no more.

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* *Couriers* and *Stars*, Sedition's Evening Host,
Thou *Morning Chronicle* and *Morning Post*,
Whether ye make the Rights of Man your theme
Your Country libel, or your God blaspheme,
Or dirt on private worth and virtue throw,
Still, blasphemous or blackguard, praise Lepaux, &c.

GEORGE CANNING.

In 1799, Mr. Canning, who had been, in March, appointed one of the Commissioners for managing the affairs of India, spoke in favour of the Union with Ireland, in opposition to Mr. Sheridan; and, adhering firmly to Mr. Pitt upon the Catholic question, as well as upon his general politics, he retired from office with that minister in January, 1801, together with the Lord Chancellor, Lord Grenville, Earl Spencer, Mr. Dundas, Mr. Wyndham, and other friends. Upon this the Addington administration succeeded, and was composed, in several of the departments, by men of great abilities, who have since played distinguished parts in English history: need we name Lord Eldon, Lord St. Vincent, Lord Hawkesbury, (afterwards Liverpool,) Sir John Mitford, (afterwards Lord Redesdale,) Sir William Grant, Mr. Law, (afterwards Lord Ellenborough,) and Mr. Perceval. For a while the new ministry was supported by the members of that which had made way for it; but this state of things was not calculated for long endurance, and less than a year saw Mr. Dundas, and Mr. Canning, now member for Tralee, openly impugning the proceedings of their successors in office; while Mr. Pitt himself distinctly withdrew his countenance from them. The possession of authority, however, had rendered their adversaries more stable than the Pitt party had anticipated; and, instead of surrendering to a nod, they required a vigorous siege to drive them out. In this siege, the regular and guerilla warfare carried on by Mr. Canning in parliament and the press, by force of argument and keenness of irony, was of incalculable service to his allies; the former keeping their high claims to confidence ever boldly before the public, and the latter undermining the popularity of their rivals. "Away with the cant of 'Measures, not men!' (he exclaimed in the house,) the idle supposition that it is the harness, and not the horses, that draw the chariot along. No, sir; if the comparison must be made, if the distinction must be taken, men are every thing, measures are comparatively nothing. I speak of times of difficulty and danger, when systems are shaken, when precedents and general rules of conduct fail.

Then it is, that, not to that or to this measure, however prudently devised, however blameless in execution; but to the energy and character of individuals, a state must be indebted for its salvation. Then it is that kingdoms rise or fall, in proportion as they are upheld, not by well-meant endeavours, laudable though they may be, but by commanding, overawing talents—by able men— —. I do think that the administration of the Government ought to be in the ablest and fittest hands: I do not think that the hands in which it is now placed, answer that description. I do not pretend to conceal in what quarter I think that fitness most eminently resides—"

It is easy to conceive that our own interests and wishes may give a tinge to our opinions, even when we are most anxious to be impartial and just; but when we consider that the speaker of the above was one of the earliest to appreciate the growing masterdom of that extraordinary man, who so long and so terribly wielded the destinies of France, it is but candour towards him, to believe that his alarm at this crisis was genuine, and his conduct dictated by prescient patriotism. At all events, his determined opposition paved the way for the resumption of power by Mr. Pitt, with whom he returned to office, in May, 1804, as Treasurer of the Navy; though, as stated, he did not altogether approve of the arrangements, but, as a point of duty, took his share of responsibility with his mighty leader.* On the following year, when the impeachment of Lord Melville was brought forward, and the hostility and rancour of party were carried to their utmost limits in modern times, he made an energetic defence for his colleague; and gradually advanced in weight as an orator and statesman, till 1806, when the death of Mr. Pitt again loosed his official bands, and the accession of the Fox and Grenville ministry threw him into opposition, where he shone a caustic and fearful antagonist. This ministry put to the test a doctrine which had long operated to prevent other and apparently more congenial amalgamations of public men: it terminated what had been resisted as an erroneous principle of exclusion, and yet it failed to realize the hopes which were entertained of what Lord Grenville described to be, "the benefit of the services of all those, who, by the public voice or sentiment, were judged most capable of contributing to its prosperity and safety."—Within a year, the coalition founded on this unquestionably admirable theory, was dismissed from His Majesty's councils; and a new government framed under the auspices of the Duke of Portland, in which the Home, Foreign, and Colonial Seals, were entrusted to Lord Hawkesbury, Mr. Canning, and Lord Castlereagh; Mr. Perceval was Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Lord Eldon Lord Chancellor. For about two years this Cabinet proceeded with no more serious difficulties than the appalling increase of power to our inveterate foreign enemy presented, and these were vigorously met, and ably counterbalanced. But in 1809, the strength of the ministry was again diverted and weakened, by a fierce attack against His Royal Highness the Duke of York, similar to that which had four years before been made against Lord Melville. By this, much confusion and perplexity were introduced, when unanimity was most desirable; but like other storms it blew over, and the popular feeling, so inflamed and excited, soon regained a healthier tone, and left a clearer judgment. With regard to ministerial permanency, the unfortunate misunderstanding which took place between Mr. Canning and Lord Castlereagh was attended by more painful effects. A duel, in which the former was wounded, and the total disruption of the Cabinet, were the results of this untoward schism. Into a matter so pregnant with discussion as this question involved, it is not within our limits or our province to enter; but however much misrepresentation or misapprehension obscured it at the time, we deem it impossible that calm and dispassionate posterity can ever look upon the share which Mr. Canning bore in it, except with admiration;—surely without censure. The question, as it appears, after all the correspondence published and explanations given, resolved itself simply into this:—Mr. Canning, disapproving of the policy pursued by his colleague, and especially of the projected expedition to the Scheldt, communicated that sentiment to the head of the administration, with the view to the abandonment of the measures to which he objected, a change in the Cabinet, or his own retirement. Without desiring to lay the onus upon any one, it is evident that a wish to carry through the public business without interruption, and, no doubt, a sense of personal and private delicacy, induced a delay in imparting to, if not a concealment of this matter from, Lord Castlereagh; and that a no less disingenuous, and, as it turned out, dangerous resort to expediency, was permitted to keep Mr. Canning in the dark upon this momentous fact. The consequence might have been foreseen: when the inevitable discovery came, Lord Castlereagh believed he had been secretly denounced by Mr. Canning, while sitting by his side at the council-board, and sought the satisfaction of a man of wounded honour; to which the spirit of his opponent, but neither his rival nor his foe, could offer no return, but that of granting the meeting which was demanded. If, throughout the whole of this transaction, the slightest blame could ever have been attached to Mr. Canning, its complete excuse was to be found in the gentle and magnanimous workings of his nature, which (no absolute necessity being apparent to justify it, as the affair was confided to the most proper hands) caused him to refrain from that blind and abrupt expression of his opinion, which must grievously have hurt the self-esteem of a nobleman, for whom, though he condemned his measures, he entertained the utmost individual regard.

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* In the grave of Mr. Pitt, (he said in one of his speeches at Liverpool,) my political allegiance is buried.

On the dissolution of the ministry, Mr. Canning continued to take his full share in the bustle of politics; and the government being conducted by his friends upon views which he approved, his parliamentary speeches and votes were of essential benefit to them, though, on the Walcheren Expedition, the Regency Bill, and other occasions, his reasoning and eloquence caused the motions on both sides to be altered and modified. In 1812, he prominently brought forward the great question of Roman Catholic emancipation; in this, as in all the other important questions to which he devoted himself, combining rational moderation with the accomplishment of a purpose which he held to be essential to the well-being, nay, the very being of the empire. A more conscientious conviction of the absolute necessity for granting full and free toleration to the Roman Catholics, never inhabited a human breast; but strong as was his sense of the justice and wisdom of this measure, Mr. Canning never forgot that securities were due to the Established Church. He never proposed, under any emergency, to do with one dash what has been done since his death; but every proposition which he offered, and every argument which he employed, tended to the relief of disabilities, without encountering the convulsion of a total change at once, and without compromising the lawful and constitutional supremacy of the Protestant religion.—These remarks apply to every period of his disinterested support of the Roman Catholic claims, even when, at the imminent risk of his health, he underwent the fatigue of delivering an elaborate address to a crowded house upon the subject, and nearly sank beneath the effort,—so like a death-bed advice, was this earnest performance of a duty.*

The atrocious murder of Mr. Perceval, 11th May, 1812, made no immediate alteration in the political position of Mr. Canning; but having been invited to stand for the representation of Liverpool, he seized the occasion (and also its recurrence, for he was returned four times) to pronounce some of the most brilliant specimens of public speaking that ever graced an orator or enlightened a people.† Far from confining himself to local and circumstantial topics, his capacious mind launched into the elucidation of the questions which it vitally concerned the country to understand; and the splendour of his genius threw over what had hitherto, and in inferior hands, been but election pleasantries or debates, a degree of statesmanlike intelligence, which caused them to be perused with prodigious effect and studied with intense interest from one end of the kingdom to the other. His triumph at Liverpool was proud and gratifying; honourable to that populous place, and worthy of himself. Nor was he less deserving of it from his having previously declined a seat for the University of Oxford, upon terms, with reference to the Catholics, at which few men would have hesitated; but Mr. Canning, so often and so loudly accused by his adversaries of the love of place, was the very being, of all others, whom no temptation of place could ever induce to swerve in the minutest point from his principles. The slightest glance at the times when he refused, and when he quitted office, affords abundant proof of this undeniable truth. How easily he might have secured the enviable representation of Oxford, untroubled with contests, and of high respect in itself as connected with that eminent seat of loyalty and learning, we well know; but, as we have stated, he could not reconcile it with his opinions on the Catholic question, and he relinquished the proffered prize, which was consequently bestowed on the younger ambition and rising talents of Mr. Peel.

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* Upon this occasion Mr. Canning was extremely ill, and went from a sick-chamber, contrary to his physician's express injunction; and so much did the exertion augment the disease, that he almost fainted on the floor of the House of Commons. Before he sat down, an access of gout attacked him so violently, that he described the pain to be as if his limbs were molten lead.

† In his speech on the 10th of January 1814, at the public dinner to which he was invited by his constituents; his description of the past efforts, and his prophetic anticipation of the accumulating glories of the country, were the most animating that ever rewarded and inspired a nation by the voice of one man

From the period at which we are now arrived, the popularity of Mr. Canning (with some immaterial exceptions) increased with every opportunity that rendered increase attainable. The British public may be, and frequently is, much misled for a season, but it is never ultimately wrong or unjust. On the contrary, there is always a re-action in favour of those who may have been either injured or slighted—of those whose errors may have been too severely visited—and of those whose merits have not been sufficiently confessed. Thus it was, in the latter branch of our proposition, with regard to Mr. Canning. He has himself excellently defined popularity to be of two sorts: "the one which is to be gained by watching the weak moments of public opinion, by aggravating temporary difficulties, or by courting and inflaming the bad passions of the populace;—the other which is to be won by bearing up, firmly and steadily, under whatever difficulties, even, if necessary, under misconstruction and obloquy, in a faithful adherence to the principles by which our greatness as a nation, and our happiness as a people, are to be maintained.—To the former sort of popularity (he truly added) I make no pretensions, but I cannot deny that the latter, if I should be so fortunate as to deserve it, would, indeed, be dear to my heart." And richly did he earn it, and dear to his heart it was: how profusely did it emblazon his closing scene, and how gloriously does it shed its lustre o'er his tomb!

In March 1813, when the subject of the Princess of Wales' conduct was agitated in Parliament, Mr. Canning declared, that in his opinion, the Minutes of the Council in 1807 were a perfect acquittal of Her Royal Highness; towards whom he was a constant and immoveable friend. We believe it may he attributed chiefly to his persuasion, that she quitted England; and happy would it have been for her had she never returned.* She was then rescued from the toils of those, who, while they made a political instrument of her, condemned her to neglect, degradation, and misery. She was a high-spirited and almost broken-hearted woman; Mr. Canning felt for her wretchedness, and, knowing the impossibility of her resuming that place where alone she could be safe, or even enjoy repose, he advised that step which might have prolonged her days in peace and comfort, had she not unfortunately in the moment of resentment listened to counsels which brought great scandal upon England, and hastened her unhappy fate. In 1820, when this lamentable crisis arrived, Mr. Canning in the House of Commons declared his unaltered regard and affection for the Princess, and while he justified the Government, which had used every effort, in the spirit of honour, candour, justice, and feeling, to avert the calamity, professed a hope that he might, without a dereliction of his public duty, indulge his private feelings, by being allowed to abstain from taking any part in the proceedings. He soon after however resigned the Presidency of the Board of Controul, in which he had succeeded the Earl of Buckinghamshire several years before, and went abroad.

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* The following anecdote may illustrate this. The writer of this article one day happened to wait at Gloucester Lodge, while the Princess of Wales had an interview with Mr. Canning; and on her retiring, was shewn into the room which Her Royal Highness had left. He found Mr. Canning standing by the fireplace very deeply affected, and, after some matters of less consequence, the conversation turned on the then engrossing topic of the day. In the course of this, to him, so interesting scene, he accidentally leaned his arm upon the chimney-piece, (when Mr. Canning, who was describing the forlorn situation of Her Royal Highness, as she had just painted it to him,) exclaimed, with great emotion, "Stop, your sleeve is now wet with a Princess's tears." It was true;—Her Royal Highness had been weeping there over her deserted condition; and we believe, that within a few hours of this time, Mr. Canning, moved by her distress, had applied for, and obtained the frigate, which bore her from the English shore.

But without observation on this remarkable portion of Mr. Canning's life, a portion which involved all that was chivalrous in his soul, and all that was sensible in his heart, we shall revert to the narrative of events. In October 1814 Mr. Canning sailed for Lisbon, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Prince Regent of Portugal; the ill health of his eldest son having induced the desire of a residence in a warmer climate. This was bitterly arraigned by the opposition as a job, and the utmost personal obloquy was attempted to be heaped on both the Foreign Secretary and the Ambassador. The answer to the charges in Parliament, however, was an irresistible refutation of them; and all that appeared was, that the talents of Mr. Canning had made him particularly obnoxious to his political opponents. He held the appointment but a few months, and after the battle of Waterloo travelled into the South of France with his family, whence he came home in the summer of 1816.

In 1822 on the recall of the Marquis of Hastings, Mr. Canning was nominated Governor-General of India, and had prepared for his departure, when the Marquis of Londonderry put an end to his own existence, (August 12,) and greatly changed the face of affairs. The whole people seemed to speak with one voice, and to require the aid of Mr. Canning in forming an administration equal to the wants of the country. In fact, every eye was turned towards him; his loss had been severely felt in preceding governments, and the near approach of an event which would have separated him from England for years, increased the anxiety of the public to retain him at home, and high in the service of the state. On the 16th of September, every courtly obstacle having given way to the indispensable necessity of the case, he was accordingly appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. His seat in Parliament was vacated by the acceptance of office, and as he declined to stand again for Liverpool, (the arduous duties attached to which representation, he could no longer find time to discharge,) his friend Mr. Huskisson was put in nomination, and elected to that honour, which he has held ever since with great credit to himself, and to the great advantage of his constituents.

This was a grand era in the life of Mr. Canning. He had been called by universal acclamation, as it were, to the direction of our national affairs; for the leader in the House of Commons is, except under particular circumstances, the chief Minister of England. All the prejudices which had been raised against him during a career in which he had flattered no prejudices, had vanished like a morning mist, and left him great and splendid on high, where all confessed his worth and power. And yet even from this proud eminence he rapidly ascended in moral and political influence—so truly enlightened were his measures, and so truly congenial to the English character, were his means of carrying them into effect.

His policy in the difficult relations between France and Spain; his recognition of the South American States; his mediatorial stand in order to reconcile the jarring of West India interests; his earnest endeavours to give independence and stability to Greece; and, later, his rapid and decisive expedition to Portugal; and his noble position, amid the mighty conflicting purposes that affected the peace of the world through the medium of Russian and Turkish collision—were all evidence of his vastly comprehensive mind, and of his ability to place England at the head of the nations of the earth. In the highest affairs of government, as in the whole course of his personal political life, he was at once masterly and cautious; but above all, he prospered, and caused the country to prosper, by the openness of his declarations, and the candour of his diplomacy. His lofty genius perceived that Great Britain, in her treaties with foreign nations, stood in no need of reserve or intrigue, and especially in the view which he took of her obvious and paramount duty—which was, not selfishly to aggrandize herself, or pursue objects detrimental to the welfare of others, but to show herself the friend of improvement wheresoever its light dawned upon mankind, and by a plain, straight-forward, and disinterested course of conduct, convince even jealous powers, that her measures only tended to her own prosperity and happiness, through the universal prosperity and happiness of the civilized world. "My policy (said he one day to the writer) is, in one word, simply and entirely *British;* but the interests of so great a country, with continental possessions, are of necessity interwoven with the interests of all other nations; and while urging the prosperity of my native land, I will demonstrate to them, that I seek nothing incompatible with their equal progress; but, on the contrary, desire to see them go hand in hand with us in the great advance of human knowledge, and the adaptation of the governing principle to the spirit of the age." Indeed, he frequently inculcated the same in public: for he who had ever been averse to senseless innovation, built on clamour and revolutionary rage, was, in the true and best sense of the word, a reformer. And for this the shallow have accused him of inconsistency; blindly shutting their eyes to the fact, that to put either individual or nation at the head of rational reform, is the best resistance that can be offered to the wild and theoretical schemes which convulse society, and deluge the earth with blood. In this lay the wisdom of Mr. Canning, and he applied it alike to England and to Europe. At home, while he opposed all visionary projects of change, he originated, or supported every proposal for practical amelioration;—abroad, he watched the contest going on between the spirit of unlimited monarchy and the spirit of unlimited democracy, and by taking up the commanding station of a neutral, favourable only to plans which were evidently for the benefit of mankind, he succeeded in causing England to be looked upon as the ark of genuine freedom, the bulwark of just principles, and the hope of the intellectual world.

In this brief retrospect we have blended our idea of his Ministerial course, both as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and as Premier; to the attainment of which hardly to be envied height, our narrative must now very shortly proceed.

In 1826, Mr. Canning visited Paris, and was treated with all the manifestations of respect and honour due to his rank and talents. In the following year, we had to mourn the loss of H. R. H. the Duke of York, in attendance at whose funeral Mr. Canning (as well as other eminent persons) had the misfortune to take a severe cold, from which he never completely recovered. In the February of this eventful year, too, the Earl of Liverpool was suddenly struck with paralysis, and became dead to the political world; and now, as before, the population of the kingdom turned towards Mr. Canning as the man who alone was fit to take up the mantle of William Pitt, and direct the councils of England. Important negociations ensued before arrangements could be concluded for the formation of a new Cabinet; but on the 12th of April a writ was moved in the House of Commons, for a member to represent the borough of Newport, in the room of the Right Hon. George Canning, who had accepted the office of First Commissioner of his Majesty's Treasury. Never, perhaps, did a cheer so loud ring within the walls of St. Stephen's, as that which attended this communication: and never certainly did an individual accept the office of Prime Minister with the voice of the people so cordially and unanimously expressed in his favour. Nor was the unconditional confidence of the Crown withheld: it had been, and we know not how truly, believed, that the conduct of Mr. Canning on the trial of Queen Caroline had given great offence to the highest quarter, insomuch that his succession to Lord Londonderry was some time delayed, in consequence of obstacles in removing the Royal repugnance to his appointment. But be this as it may, the intercourse which had since arisen—the splendid abilities of the Secretary—his winning manners—a sense of what the common weal demanded—and a sincere approbation of all his measures, had not only reconciled the King to Mr. Canning, but endeared Mr. Canning to his Sovereign. We speak on no light authority, when we publish the historical fact, (which could only be derived from one person,) that His Majesty's condescension and assurances to his Minister, on giving him his hand to kiss as Premier, made an impression of indescribable and indelible force upon his mind.* He knew, from the manner of his gracious Master, that he was the elect of his own choice, and would be sustained, by his august protection, against all cabal or opposition: the conviction was made perfect, and he felt that he was in truth the Minister of the Throne, as well as the Minister of the People.

The highest pinnacle of political ambition was now reached,—but, with all its gratifications and all its glories, it was a height of sorrow and of care. The worm of disease was preying on the vital strength of Mr. Canning; and his heart was saddened by the desertion of those on whom he had relied for co-operation. On this painful point it would not suit our brief memoir to enter; and we shall merely mention one remarkable fact, namely, that in Mr. Canning's opinion, Mr. Peel alone separated from him on good and sufficient public grounds. Mr. Peel felt at that period he could not accept an office, (Home Secretary,) which virtually governed Ireland, under the ministry of one from whom he so entirely differed on the question of Catholic emancipation. Lord Eldon had several years before, in the House of Lords, shown that he was unfriendly to the advancement of Mr. Canning; the Duke of Wellington stood so pre-eminently exalted, as to have fair pretensions to be himself at the head of the administration; and the other dissentients were induced to act as they did, by political connexion, rather than by individual objection. The feelings of Mr. Canning, we think we may add, were most hurt by the alienation of Lord Melville.

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* It can, alas, be no breach of etiquette, or betrayed confidence, *now* to record how powerfully Mr. Canning was affected by His Majesty's behaviour on this exciting occasion. On the succeeding day, when he described it to the writer, he was almost overcome by the emotions called up by the bare recollection of the King's goodness. They were alone in St. James's, and the important subject of the resignation of Mr. Canning's late colleagues, the propositions for the choice of new members to the Cabinet, the course of policy to be adopted on certain leading questions, had been considered in a manner worthy of the frank and manly natures of both the parties, when His Majesty, who had a while leaned upon the arm of the chair on which Mr. Canning sat, held out the royal sign of his entire confidence, and gave him his hand to kiss, accompanied by expressions so sincere and gratifying, that the deeply touched Minister could only drop on his knee, and impress on it the silent oath of his utter devotedness and love. We could wish, if it were possible, to paint a historical picture of so interesting a scene, and one which ought never to be forgotten, when the patriotic virtues of either the Monarch or the subject are remembered.

It was soon evident in both houses of Parliament, that considerable irritation prevailed among the parties who had thus broken up a long and intimate connexion. Explanations were given by the principals; and a series of angry and harassing attacks on the new minister were carried on by their friends and adherents. It was observed that Mr. Canning only repelled these assaults in a languid manner, by challenging his adversaries to bring forward a specific charge. —The struggle and the weight of business were too much for his impaired health; he got through the session, but, unhappily for his country and the universe, the season of parliamentary repose brought no salutary ease to him:—in the month of July, his indisposition became alarming, and on the 8th of August he breathed his last, at the residence of the Duke of Devonshire, Chiswick, where also Charles Fox died.

As his accession to supreme power had been hailed by general acclamation, so was his early death bewailed as a general calamity! Not only England, but France, Germany, Greece, both the Americas—in short, the good and wise of all nations—lamented him, as if the loss had been peculiarly their own. It is impossible to describe the public shock: on looking round, it seemed that every house had been bereaved of a near and dear relative. The same intense grief was manifested at his funeral in Westminster Abbey, on the 16th; where, of all the numerous assemblage of the elevated and distinguished, who attended to pay the last tribute of respect to his remains, every eye was moist with tears, and every bosom full. And it is still more honourable to his memory to say, now, at the distance of years, that throughout society, his name is rarely mentioned without a sigh of regret, and if error or ill is suspected to have since occurred, the confidence that it might and would have been otherwise had he lived, is deploringly rested in his hallowed grave.

We will not dwell on the monuments, sculptures, paintings, engravings, and medals, by which a grateful and admiring people have preserved his recollection: many of them are exquisite works of art, and the eagerness with which they are sought, has caused them to abound. Yet his were features not to be readily caught by the artist, and transferred to an inanimate substance. We have seen no likeness of him that would entirely satisfy us; and, indeed, this must always be the case, where the countenance is illuminated by the varying and changeable lights of genius, forbidding any single expression, however faithful, to be received as a perfect resemblance. And in this respect, Mr. Canning presented extraordinary difficulties to the sculptor and painter:—he was, if it may be said of his sex, beautiful; yet as manly as he was graceful; and his emotions spoke as eloquently through his lip, and cheek, and eye, as through his words and voice. It was at once delightful and surprising, to witness in the statesman of toil and thought, when interesting matters engaged his mind and prompted his conversation, the red alternately mantling on and forsaking his cheek like that of a blushing girl, his fine eye seeming to enlarge and darken with energy, or beaming with the playfulness of gentle wit, and his every look and gesture telling what passed within.

His nature was like its corporeal shrine; the gem was worthy of the casket. He was a warm and unalterable friend: never did he take or leave office without anxiously providing for every just claim. To his enemies he was placable and forgiving; the hasty spark of anger in him, left no resentment, no hatred. His chivalrous soul was quick to avenge a wrong, or repel an insult; but no lingering animosity ever survived the moment of affront. The thunder-cloud burst, and instantly the clear blue sky was calm, and smiling, and serene. When he called for, and received an explanation from Sir Francis Burdett, for some contumelious expressions respecting himself and his family; when he had retorted with tremendous asperity upon Mr. Brougham in the House of Commons; when he challenged an anonymous libeller in language that even in secret must cause him to writhe under the stigma of falsehood and cowardice;—when he had cleared his breast upon these and similar occasions of the perilous stuff which a sense of injury inspired, the thing was ended, the wrong was redressed, and the memory of offence was obliterated for ever. Such was his noble character.

And with all his constitutional fire and energy, there never existed a human creature, in whom the sympathies and amenities of life were more abundantly blended. He was open, and candid, and liberal towards all: he conquered cunning by frankness, and subdued treachery by generosity. Among the difficulties that beset a Minister, there are none more perplexing than those connected with the distribution of patronage; and we cannot adduce a more decisive proof of Mr. Canning's fine disposition than the simple fact, that we have known men whose applications he had been obliged to refuse, so enchanted with the candour and consideration with which it was done, that they have declared themselves as perfectly satisfied as if he had been able to comply with their wishes. This remark is, perhaps, common-place, but it is very conclusive; and we shall add an anecdote strikingly illustrative of his compassionate heart, which was indeed open as the day to melting charity. The writer was one day with him, when either the newspapers or some private person gave an account of a woman with a family of children in mourning, having watched the egress of Lord Sidmouth (then Home Secretary) from his official residence, and thrown herself bathed in tears at his feet, while the children clung to his dress, and implored, in the most melting tones, mercy for a husband and a father who was under sentence of death, and about to be executed. The sentence it appeared was irrevocable, and the noble Lord had literally to be torn from the despairing group. We well remember Mr. Canning's observation, "I would not be in that situation, exposed to such an affliction, for all the power and influence possessed by all the ministry."

We have hoped that these traits will interest the public, for who can be insensible to the private virtues of so great a man?

In the course of this sketch we have noticed his high poetical faculty, and his eminent literary talents. His classical attainments were of the first order, and we can state that, had life been spared him, it was his purpose to have bestowed more encouragement upon the literature of his country, than any minister had done for a century. He was sensible that this important subject had been too much neglected amid the din of wars and the contests of parties; and was resolved to give it his best attention. As pledges of this design, he was proposed and elected a member of the Royal Society of Literature, and he had consented to take the chair at the ensuing anniversary of the Literary Fund Society. His desire was to restore an age of learning and genius, more deserving of the name of Golden than that of Anne, or of any other English sovereign; and notwithstanding the wide diffusion of literary independence, it is not easy to calculate the effect which might have been produced by the new circumstance of a Government favourable to the laudable efforts of the press. But it is painful to speculate on what *might* have been; what WAS, has left us too much to lament.

We have spoken of the candour with which Mr. Canning carried on our intercourse with foreign states, and which, while it tended to our national elevation, took away every pretext for opposition to the measures we found it expedient to pursue; but at the same time, no minister ever took better care to be intimately acquainted with the proceedings of other governments. The first indications and movements towards any purpose were speedily known to him, and the mass of intelligence derived from every various source, being weighed and sifted, he was prepared to act with vigour and promptitude, in whatever way the occasion required. This is a great merit in a statesman, and a merit unseen by the public eye; yet as such knowledge is literally strength, it is equally calculated to avert wars, and to augment the prosperity of a people. Thus, under the guidance of Mr. Canning, Great Britain was feared and respected: it was known that she had no concealed projects in view, that her councils were well informed respecting the means and aims of others, and that she was fully prepared to act as circumstances demanded for her own security, and the general distribution of justice and right. By such honest yet consummate policy, were we raised to the enviable rank in which we stood under the administration of Mr. Canning, and when we look at his ardour for the prosecution of the Peninsular war, his treaties with the great European powers, his position with regard to the Holy Alliance, his negociations with the United States, and his conduct towards South America, we may well apply to him the words of that heart-stirring lyric, in which he embalmed the services of his friend.

> And shall not his memory to Britain be dear,
> Whose example all nations with envy behold;
> A statesman unbiassed by interest or fear,
> By power uncorrupted, untainted by gold:
>
> Who when terror and doubt through the universe reigned,
> While rapine and treason their standards unfurl'd,
> The heart and the hopes of his country maintained,
> And one kingdom preserved 'midst the wreck of the world?
>
> \- -
>
> O! take then—for dangers by wisdom repelled,
> For evils by courage and constancy braved—
> O! take! for a throne by thy counsels upheld,
> The thanks of a people thy firmness has saved!

In alluding to Mr. Canning's correspondence with foreign nations, we ought not to forget the extraordinary ability of his diplomatic and state papers, models as they were for the exposition of fundamental principles, and for their application to the subjects at issue. Upon these important documents he bestowed great pains, and, like his published speeches, they were corrected, polished, and improved, till they were unassailable by adverse reasoning, and carried conviction home to every breast. His speeches on the commerce of the country, and other subjects, where the graces of oratory would have been out of place, were also remarkable for their comprehensive bearings, and the clearness and profundity of their deductions. It was in this manner that he supported the free trade system, which has been so ably advocated by his friend and coadjutor Mr. Huskisson, the Report of the Bullion Committee, the East India question, the finance measures of the Exchequer, and other important affairs, which partook of the dryness and details of business; while in his addresses to Parliament against speculative reform, on Catholic disabilities, on international policy, and other momentous topics of a broader character, he poured out the most logical and lucid arguments, in sentences replete with elegance, force, and harmony, and varied with strokes of the keenest irony and the most sparkling wit. He was the last, and, taken for all in all, probably the greatest of the mighty phalanx by whose eloquence, during half a century, the British senate has been charmed and led captive.

In domestic life Mr. Canning was most exemplary, and in his social hours fascinating. His affability and simplicity of manner, his kindness, and, above all, his ingenuousness, caused him to be loved by every one who had the happiness to approach him, to such a degree, that none but those who enjoyed this privilege can imagine the depth and sincerity of the private attachments with which he was surrounded. So beloved was he, in truth, that we do not use a figurative style when we express our belief, that there were those who would have died for him.

On the 8th of July, 1800, Mr. Canning married Miss Joan Scott, second daughter and co-heiress of Major-General John Scott, of Balcomie, with whom he received a portion of upwards of a hundred thousand pounds. Let it be emphatically recorded, that notwithstanding this splendid fortune, and all the high offices he held, Mr. Canning died poor. Through his lady, his political connexion with the Portland family was riveted; her sister, Miss Scott, having been united to the Marquis of Tichfield, son of the late, and now the Duke of Portland. Their family consisted of three sons and one daughter, of whom only the youngest son, Charles John, and the daughter, Harriett, married to the Marquis of Clanricarde, survive. George Charles, the eldest born, on whose account his parents sought the climate of Lisbon, was delicate from his infancy, and died, aged nineteen, on the 31st of March, 1820. He was ever an object of their tenderest affection; and the epitaph upon his tomb in Kensington church-yard, written by his father, shows how dear his sweetness of temper, and early indications of genius, had made him, and how severely his loss was deplored. It is one of the most touching and pious effusions that our language can boast,—a natural outpouring of paternal affliction seeking consolation in the highest of human hopes. William-Pitt, the second son, also found a premature grave. He was a Commander in the Navy, and was unfortunately drowned on the 25th of September, 1828, when bathing at Madeira.* For generosity, spirit, and gallantry, he was worthy of the sire from whom he sprung; and his brief span was filled with brave and noble actions.

In January, 1828, Mrs. Canning was raised to the peerage, with remainder to her heirs male by her deceased husband, by the title of Viscountess Canning of Kilbraham, in the county of Kilkenny. Of her talents a very favourable idea must be formed from the perusal of a pamphlet recently published, in which she powerfully vindicates Mr. Canning's policy with respect to the Constitutional Charter of Portugal, which had been impugned in some ministerial observations on the papers laid before Parliament on this subject. In this production we perceive how intimately acquainted Mrs. Canning must have been with her husband's sentiments on political affairs, and it fully corroborates the statements we have offered on these points.

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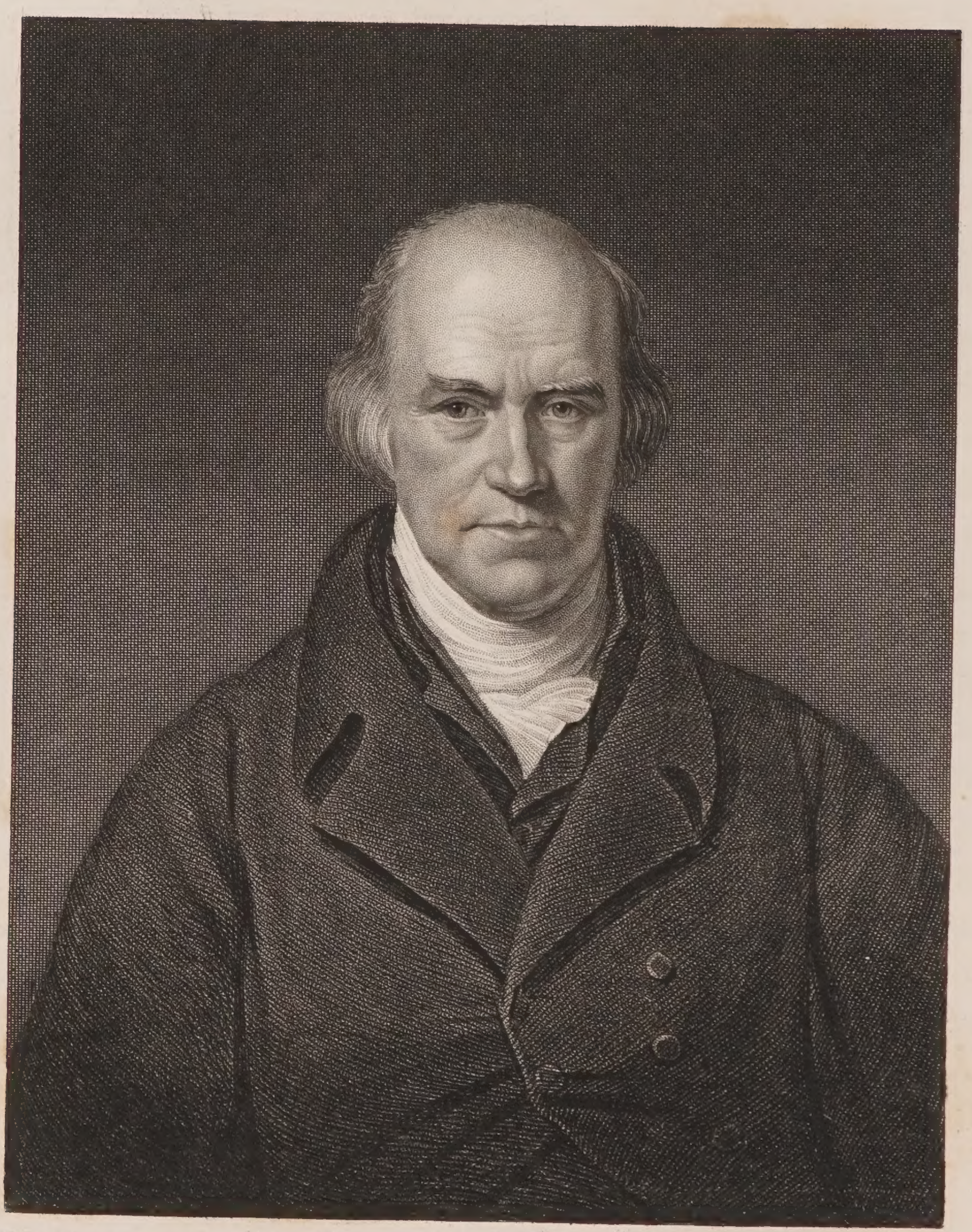
* It has been suggested that a Memorial to this gallant youth, so dear to every Briton for his father's sake, should be erected by subscription, in Westminster Abbey, where his remains repose.

"It was, (she tells the world,) Mr. Canning's policy to obtain for Great Britain the confidence and good-will of the people of other nations; not, however, by flattering their prejudices, or encouraging their discontent, but by showing a fixed determination to act with impartial justice towards them. While he was at the helm, there was not one of the European governments which dared to provoke the vengeance of England, because they well knew that war with England would be a measure too unpopular to hazard. Thus, Mr. Canning was enabled to hold language, and to carry measures, in defiance of the principles and prejudices of some, and contrary to the wishes of the governments of all the great Continental Powers. By this means he obtained over these governments an influence, which he employed not only to promote the interests of England, but the general prosperity of the world." . .

"The leading object of his foreign policy was, to preserve the peace of the world, holding high the balance, and grasping, but not unsheathing the sword. It was for this end that he sought to place this country in the position of an 'umpire;' in order that, by restraining the passions of both parties, he might prevent their dreaded collision. He entirely succeeded in his endeavours, and at the period of his death, the bright aspect of the political horizon indicated no approaching storm."

Truly not! England, in all her proud and magnificent career, never before stood so pre-eminent in the scale of nations: and for this glorious attitude she was deeply indebted to the masterly genius, the wisdom, the integrity, the patriotism, and the devotedness of George Canning. "He was a Man," in the amplest sense which can be attached to the words of our immortal bard; and, succeed him who may for generations to come, we are bold to add,—

————————"Take him for all in all,
We shall not look upon his like again."



H. Howard, R.A. Thomson.

DAVIES GILBERT, ESQ. M.P. P.R.S.

Davies Gilbert

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1830.

DAVIES GILBERT, ESQ. M.P.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

THE life of a man of science rarely presents any striking features for the biographer to seize upon, unless he can accompany his subject into the recesses of his closet, and see him laboriously investigating the hidden secrets of nature in all her multiplied mysteries, unfolding the springs of action, analyzing component parts, elucidating the curious properties of mind or matter, and patiently bringing to light the knowledge of things which are calculated to improve the condition, and enlarge the enjoyments, of his fellow-creatures. Nor do the Memoirs of Mr. GILBERT offer us many points which could make him an exception to this rule; for though, as a Member of Parliament, and a public-spirited citizen, he has taken a full and sometimes prominent share in the transactions of the times, and though, in his high place of President of the Royal Society, he has conducted its business with great ability, there are nevertheless few circumstances on which to dwell, and certainly none to compare with the effects produced by the vast fund of intelligence brought to bear in a less ostensible manner upon the important objects and interests of the scientific world, its pursuits, improvements, and discoveries. By his fortune a great encourager, and by his talents a still greater ornament both to literature and science, Mr. Gilbert's doings are, yet, so shrouded in privacy, that though all can perceive the results, it would be difficult to find one who could sufficiently describe the means.

The name of the ancient family to which the learned President belongs is Giddy; and is of great antiquity in the county of Cornwall. His ancestors have long been seated at Trebersy, an estate near the eastern extremity of the remarkable peninsula which stretches its wild natural beauties, its rare geological strata, and its rich mineral veins, into the stormy bed of the sea, on the most picturesque coast that even fancy could imagine. Mr. John Giddy, the grandfather of Mr. Gilbert, resided near Truro, and had two sons, Edward and Thomas, the former in the church, the latter settled at Penzance. They were educated at Truro school; and Edward, after taking his degrees at Christ Church, Oxford, was ordained to the curacy of St. Erth, in his native county, the only preferment he ever enjoyed. Here he married Catherine, daughter of Mr. John Davies, of Tredrea, the representative of several old Cornish houses, and among these, that of William Noye, attorney-general in the reign of Charles the First, whose property he inherited; also of Sandys of The Vine, in Hampshire. Of these parents, and at St. Erth, in the year 1767, was born the subject of this sketch. From the Imperial Magazine, (in the July number of which, 1828, a faithful and well-written memoir of Mr. Gilbert was published,) we learn, that after obtaining the rudiments of learning, partly by attendance at a grammar school in Penzance, but mainly by the care and attention of his father under the paternal roof, he proceeded to Oxford, and was admitted a student of Pembroke College. Dr. Johnson, who was also of Pembroke, once said with exultation, in allusion to the poetical characters there brought up, that it was a nest of singing-birds; and since that period, it is certain the credit of the house has not diminished, as the fasti of the University will sufficiently evince.

Among other individuals who have distinguished their names, and cotemporary with Mr. DAVIES GIDDY, but of older standing in the College, was that extraordinary man, Dr. Thomas Beddoes, whose ardent and penetrating mind soon became closely attached to a kindred spirit, in whom the love of science was predominant. The intimacy between the two students was of reciprocal advantage, for if Beddoes excelled in chemistry, his friend had a deeper insight in mathematics; and the knowledge which each possessed was as liberally imparted to the other.

On the breaking out of the French Revolution, Beddoes became one of the most violently tainted with the democratical mania: he doffed his doctor's gown, and rushed into the arena of politics, clamorous for a new organization of the social body. This heated pursuit, however, had not the effect of separating the friends; and notwithstanding the disparity of their political sentiments, the Doctor, or, as he now chose to designate himself, plain Thomas Beddoes, inscribed to his fellow collegian an ingenious treatise, which he published in 1792, entitled, "Observations on the Nature of Demonstrative Evidence." The great points which the author endeavours to maintain in this performance, are, that geometry may be best taught by sensible images, or mechanical contrivances; and Latin and Greek by new grammars, simply constructed on the principles of etymology.

In the dedication to Mr. Giddy, the Doctor says, "For the principal opinion, stated and exemplified in the following pages, it seems to me that I have the full evidence of intuition; and this evidence, you know, must always carry conviction to the mind of the individual. All he can desire further is, to learn whether objects appear to the senses of others as they appear to his senses. What additional confirmation it is possible in such circumstances to receive, was afforded me by your assent, when I formerly mentioned to you my ideas concerning demonstrative evidence. Your uncommon proficiency in mathematical science, and your no less uncommon discernment, I was well assured, perfectly qualified you to decide on such a question."

The friendship to which we have alluded, was not more honorable to the parties themselves, than important to the interests of science. Soon after this publication, Dr. Beddoes, finding his situation at Oxford no longer tenable, gave up the chemical lectureship, and removed to Clifton, near Bristol. Here he began to put into execution his favourite project of treating pulmonary disorders by the mechanical application of factitious airs to consumptive patients. For this purpose a subscription was set on foot, and hence arose the Pneumatic Institution, which, if it did not answer the immediate expectation of the proprietor and supporters, brought into action talents that have proved of inestimable benefit to this country, and to the world of science.

It has often been remarked, that some of the most valuable discoveries have originated in accidental circumstances, or chimerical pursuits. Thus the fall of an apple gave the hint of gravitation; the search for the philosopher's stone produced phosphorus; and to the scheme of relieving consumptions by the elastic fluids, we are indebted for the analysis of the alkalies. Though the pneumatic scheme ended, like most other wonders, in disappointment, and the dream of empiricism now excites a smile, we are induced to feel some respect for it, on account of its having been the means of bringing into public life such a man as Sir Humphry Davy. The extraordinary powers of this eminent philosopher were first discovered at Penzance by Mr. Giddy, while he was going through a preparatory education with Mr. Bingham Borlase, an eminent surgeon in that town, to qualify himself for attending the medical school of Edinburgh. The chemical establishment at Clifton was exactly a situation fitted for the improvement of an ardent mind; and here, on the recommendation of his friend and countryman, Humphry Davy first began those experiments, the result of which has immortalized his name.

For this apparent digression, no apology, we trust, is requisite, considering the characters and circumstances to which it relates. We therefore now return to the immediate subject of this momoir; who on the 26th of June 1789, received the degree of Master of Arts from the University of Oxford. From this period we have little or no acquaintance with his personal history, till his entrance upon public life. Thus much, however, we can venture to say, that his time, after quitting college, was not dissipated in idleness or pleasure. His principal delight lay in the company of literary men, on which account he became a candidate for admission into the Royal Society, and was elected a member, November 17, 1791. Besides this, his eager thirst for knowledge led him to join the Linnæan Society; and if not the first mover, he certainly was one of the most active supporters of the institution for the cultivation of geology and mineralogy in his native county, of which he has continued president up to the present time. These associations necessarily extended the circle of his acquaintance with scientific characters: to many of whom his friendship was substantially beneficial.

In 1804, Mr. Giddy was elected into Parliament for the borough of Helston; but, at the next election in 1806, he was returned for Bodmin, which place he has continued to represent ever since. As a senator, he has not been distinguished by the splendour of his eloquence, or the frequency of his speeches; yet his judgment in the house has always had great influence on questions of a practical nature, and especially on those connected with science. On one occasion, indeed, in which he exerted himself with more than usual energy, he failed of success, and that was, in asserting literary liberty against the oppression of the Copyright Act. On questions strictly political, he has rarely, we believe, offered his opinion; and on some of those which have most divided the public mind, he has even declined to vote. In 1811, when the high price of gold, as a marketable commodity, produced an ominous effect on the currency of the realm, and when the public mind became greatly agitated by the alleged depreciation of bank notes, Mr. Giddy printed an argumentative tract, entitled, "A Plain Statement of the Bullion Question;" the object of which was to allay the popular ferment.

About two years previous to this, he married Miss Mary Ann Gilbert, of East Bourn, in Sussex, whose family name he has since assumed, on account of the hereditary estates to which he has, by virtue of that alliance, become entitled. This union has been productive of several children, but the eldest, a fine boy of the greatest promise, named Charles Davies, died at the age of three years, to the grief of his parents, who erected a small monument, with an affecting inscription to his memory, in the chancel of East Bourn church. Under such privations, it is well when the mind has resources in itself, to which it can apply for relief. The late excellent Bishop Newton used to say, that the most effectual remedy he found in the loss of friends, was to plunge over head and ears in study; by which means his thoughts became calm, and the tone of his mind recovered its proper temperament. It was so in the present case, and the good effects have appeared in a variety of parliamentary respects.

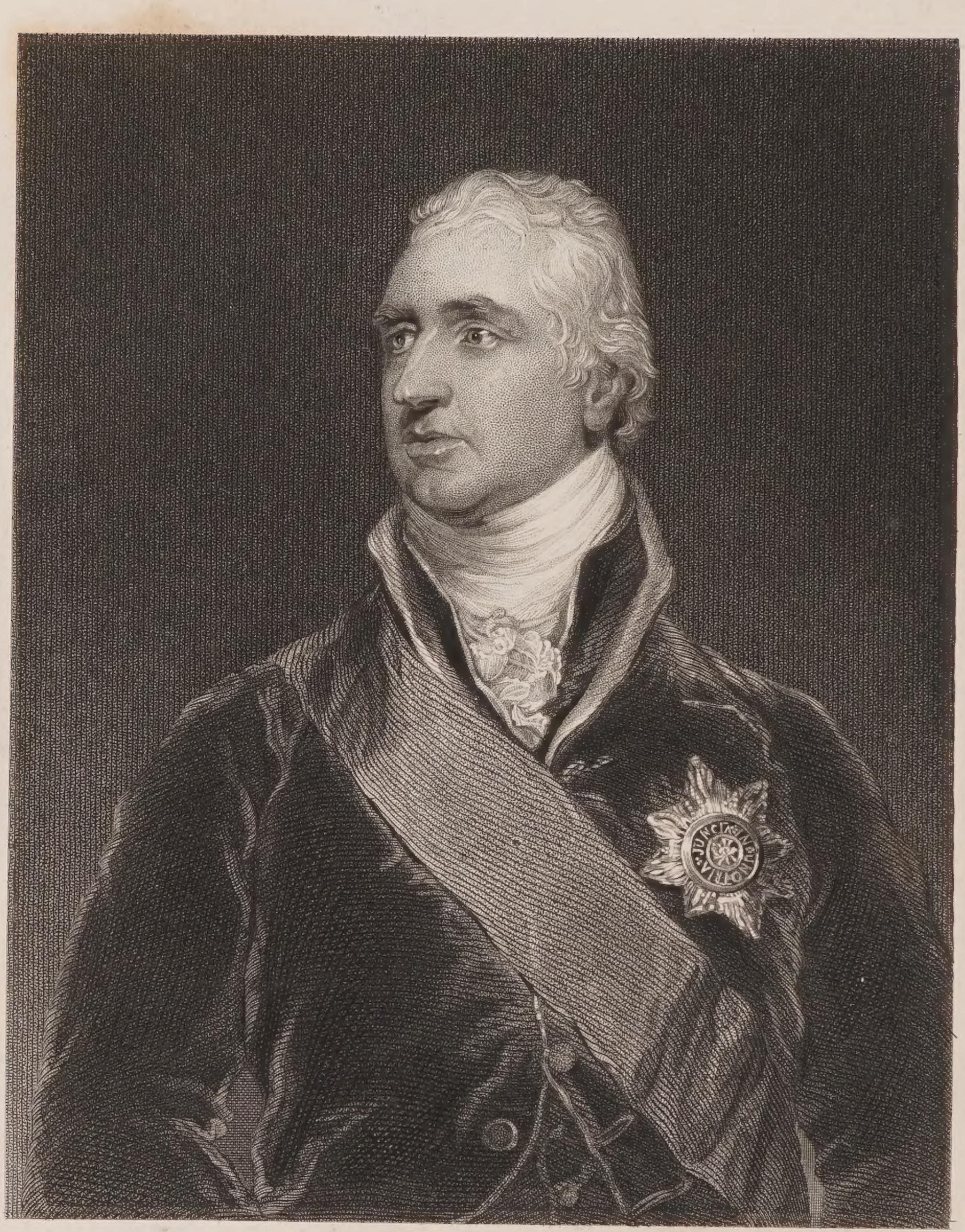
On the death of Sir Joseph Banks, the unanimous voice of the Royal Society called Sir Humphry Davy to the chair; and at the same time, his friend Mr. Gilbert accepted the office of Treasurer. Ill health having obliged Sir Humphry Davy to quit England in the early part of 1828, Mr. Gilbert occupied the chair as Vice-President; and when a continuance of the same indisposition finally induced Sir Humphry to retire, Mr. Gilbert was chosen President, to the great satisfaction of the body at large, and especially of the scientific members.

Having acknowledged our obligation for these authentic particulars from the Imperial Magazine, we have not much to add in the way of sequel, from our own resources. Since his election to the chair of the Royal Society, the President has delivered two annual Addresses, both worthy of the occasion on which they were spoken; plain and satisfactory in their historical views of the progress of science, and discriminating and feeling in their tributes to the memory of the distinguished Members, of whom death had robbed the Society within the past year. In the last, Nov. 30th, 1829, the allusions to the great luminaries who had become extinct within the short space of twelve months, were particularly appropriate and touching; and the names of Wollaston, Young, and Davy, were fitly honoured, upon the scene of their principal exertions, by the sensible and affecting expressions in which their works were recorded, and their loss lamented. Mr. Gilbert's speeches, on delivering the medals, have also been altogether characteristic of what such productions ought to be in England—solid, full of information, and showing an intimate knowledge of the subject, in whatever branch of science it might be, that had won the prize. No attempts at brilliancy or declamation, no factitious parade of importance; but a round unvarnished tale, and applause bestowed so justly, that its obvious truth rendered it a thousand-fold more acceptable and valuable, than all the panegyric of compliment could have been. In his general deportment, too, the manners of the President towards the Society are well calculated to ensure him respect and esteem. The Roman simplicity which marks his whole demeanor, is, in itself, a perpetual letter of recommendation to the intelligent observer of mankind; and the sense of this is heightened by farther intercourse, which develops the English and gentlemanlike courtesy, the kind and affable attentions, and the various and profound attainments, of the unassuming President. It is, indeed, delightful to contemplate such qualities reposing so quietly within the calm mind of their possessor; like the treasure-mines of his native country, without a sign upon the surface to tell where their exhaustless wealth exists.

And, he must be able to dig deeply, who could explore the stores of knowledge in all the exact sciences, which are there to be found: for Mr. Gilbert is universally confessed to be at the very head of those, whose application to the more abstruse branches of learning has been crowned with the greatest success. He is not inferior to the first mathematician of the age, whether that title may be claimed at home or abroad. Nor have his studies been confined to dry and abstract researches; his hours of relaxation have been adorned by literary pursuits of a lighter nature, but not incongenial with his grander labours. As a Fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, Mr. Gilbert has sustained his own reputation, and the credit of that body, by publishing three works of a curious and interesting character. The first, "A Collection of Ancient Christmas Carols, with the tunes to which they were formerly sung in the West of England," throws a pleasing light upon the religious customs of our forefathers; and, in some degree, illustrates their domestic habits, as well as the traditionary condition of the earliest period of Christianity in our island. The other productions are the Originals, accompanied by translations into English by John Keigwin, of two poems, written originally in the obsolete Cornish language, one entitled, "Mount Calvary, or the History of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ;" and the other, "The Creation of the World to Noah's Flood." Extravagant as these Legendary Romances are, we do not seek in them either for much entertainment or information; but, as memorials of a language, of which too little has been preserved for the sake of philology, they possess very considerable value. Any remains of the Cornish, as a dialect of the Celtic, must be of interest to the inquiries now carrying on in many quarters of the civilized world, into the origin of that wide-spread and ancient tongue; and we rejoice to know, with so much effect, that the early history of the nations from which the people of Europe are descended, is gradually becoming less involved in the obscurity of time. As a contributor to this result, Mr. Gilbert has earned the thanks of the antiquary and the public; and particularly of his own countrymen, the last traces of whose language he has thus patriotically rescued from oblivion. In other respects he is also a zealous benefactor to Cornwall; to which the Museum at Penzance, the encouragement of geological investigation, and the promotion of many spirited designs, bear ample testimony.*

Thus, without glitter or ostentation, but, on the contrary, with more than a usual proportion of the modesty and diffidence which often accompany real abilities and superior intelligence, does the subject of this inadequate notice hold on the even tenor of his way; communicating largely to the wants of others, from his own great stores of knowledge, and shining more by these reflected lights, than by the direct diffusion of his rays: and hence, we may conclude, he has surrounded himself by intelligent friends—who admire the more, the nearer they are admitted within the luminous, though placid circle.

* In the Philosophical Transactions will be found two communications from Mr. Gilbert. One on the Catenary Curve, accompanied by extensive Tables for constructing the Menai Bridge; the other, on Steam Engines. The Journal of the Royal Institution contains several of his papers, and one of considerable length on the Vibration of Pendulums. And very recently he has given, in a separate work, Collections and Translations respecting Neotus, a local saint, whose church in Cornwall is distinguished by the great quantity remaining of its ancient stained glass.



Sir Thos Lawrence, P.R.A. H. Robinson.

CHARLES WHITWORTH, VISCOUNT WHITWORTH.

Whitworth

FISHER, SON & Co LONDON, 1830.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE CHARLES WHITWORTH,

EARL WHITWORTH.

Descended from an ancient family of Staffordshire, which in the beginning of the last century was represented by Lord Whitworth, a diplomatist of considerable talent and celebrity, the subject of the present Memoir, was the eldest son of Sir Charles Whitworth, Knight, and Miss Shelley, daughter of Richard Shelley, Esq. a Commissioner of the Stamp-Office. He was born at Leybourne Grange, Kent, in 1754, and educated at Tunbridge school, under Mr. Cawthorne, the poet, and Mr. Towers, the translator of Cæsar and other Latin classics. On leaving this academy, Mr. Whitworth entered the army with a commission in the Guards; but the example of his predecessor having inspired him with ambition to rise in the career of diplomacy, he devoted himself to that line of public service, and in 1786 was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Stanislaus Augustus, King of Poland. Warsaw was at that period the theatre of political intrigues; which terminated in the second partition of the country, and the final subversion of an independent kingdom. On this embassy Mr. Whitworth remained two years; and in 1788 was nominated to a much more important station, that of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to St. Petersburg, where the Court of the Empress Katharine offered a remarkable field for the exercise of his penetration, skill, and judgment. These qualities Mr. Whitworth soon displayed in an eminent degree. In 1793, when the gathering tempest of the French Revolution agitated all Europe, it was thought proper to add dignity and weight to his mission, and he was accordingly invested with the ribbon of the order of the Bath. From this period Sir Charles acted a very conspicuous part in politics, and his abilities in negociation were recognized in the altered measures of the Russian cabinet, which, in 1799, entered into the common cause against France.

In 1800, Sir Charles returned to England, and on the 21st of March was created an Irish Peer, by the title of Baron Whitworth of Newport Pratt, in the county of Galway. The affairs of the North having assumed a very complicated and hostile form, it was deemed essential to the interests of England to despatch an Ambassador of acknowledged talents and experience to Copenhagen, and thither Lord Whitworth proceeded, in the character of Plenipotentiary Extraordinary, Mr. Merry, our resident Minister, remaining at his post, to transact the official business which belonged to it. Backed by a strong squadron under Admiral Dickson in the Sound, his Lordship, after much discussion with Count Bernstorff, accomplished the wishes of the British Government, and concluded a satisfactory convention with Denmark, and also effected a friendly change in the views of Russia. It is true, that this disposition was suddenly overturned, and a new armed neutrality formed; but that, again, was dissipated by arguments more powerful than diplomacy. In 1801, Lord Nelson visited the Baltic, commanding a fleet of eighteen sail of the line; and the battle of Copenhagen, the secession of Sweden, and the death of the Emperor Paul, restored matters to nearly the same state as they had been arranged by Lord Whitworth on the preceding year.

In the mean time the noble Baron auspiciously concluded a treaty of a more interesting kind, by uniting himself in marriage (April 7th, 1801) with Arabella Diana, widow of Frederick, third Duke of Dorset, and eldest daughter and coheiress of Sir Charles Cope, second Baronet of Brewern, in the county of Oxford. His Lordship, we may here remark, was a very handsome man, tall and commanding in person, and with a look of great nobleness and dignity, while his manner was at once marked by energy and suavity.

On the accession of Mr. Addington to the Ministry of England, negociations were opened with Buonaparte, and Lord Hawkesbury, as Secretary for Foreign Affairs, signed the preliminaries of peace with M. Otto in London. The Treaty of Amiens was concluded March 27th, 1802; and towards the latter end of the year, Lord Whitworth, having previously been made a Privy Councillor, went to Paris as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. The circumstances attendant upon this memorable mission made too strong an impression on the public mind, ever to be forgotten. In the French capital the English Ambassador found himself surrounded by foes instead of friends, and the asperity of his reception and treatment soon showed him that only a short and faithless truce had been framed between the two countries.

The First Consul, among other aggressions, occupied Holland with a considerable army, violated the integrity of Switzerland, and, in short, acted as if no treaty existed, aggrandizing himself, and spreading his power wherever ambition dictated, and opportunity offered. At the same time he urged bitter complaints against the English press, and by every means that could be devised, rendered the position of our Ambassador as difficult and disagreeable as could possibly be conceived. In this trying situation, his Lordship acquitted himself in a way to acquire the admiration of his country and the world. Unmoved by taunts and insults, he preserved that coolness and equanimity, so necessary for the critical posture in which he stood; and by a course of conduct honorable to himself, and the nation which he represented, finally succeeded in setting both in the right point of view, before the other governments of Europe. The retention of Malta, at length brought the disputes, which can hardly deserve the name of negotiations, to an issue; and, as the famous despatch from Lord Whitworth to Lord Hawkesbury gives the most interesting account of this remarkable epoch, we copy it, if not to inform, at any rate to refresh the memories of our readers.

Despatch from Lord Whitworth to Lord Hawkesbury, dated Paris, February 21, 1803.

My Lord,—My last despatch, in which I gave your Lordship an account of my conference with M. de Talleyrand, was scarcely gone, when I received a note from him, informing me that the First Consul wished to converse with me, and desired I would come to him at the Thuilleries at nine o'clock. He received me in his cabinet with tolerable cordiality, and, after talking on different subjects for a few minutes, he desired me to sit down, as he himself did on the other side of the table, and began. He told me that he felt it necessary, after what had passed between me and M. de Talleyrand, that he should, in the most clear and authentic manner, make known his sentiments to me, in order to their being communicated to his Majesty; and he conceived this would be more effectually done by himself, than through any medium whatever. He said that it was a matter of infinite disappointment to him, that the treaty of Amiens, instead of being followed by conciliation and friendship, the natural effects of peace, had been productive only of continual and increasing jealousy and mistrust; and that this mistrust was now avowed in such a manner as must bring the point to an issue.

He now enumerated the several provocations which he pretended to have received from England. He placed in the first line our not evacuating Malta and Alexandria, as we were bound to do by the treaty. In this, he said, that no consideration on earth should make him acquiesce; and, of the two, he had rather see us in possession of the Fauxbourg St. Antoine than Malta. He then adverted to the abuse thrown out against him in the English public prints; but this, he said, he did not so much regard as that which appeared in the French papers published in London. This he considered as much more mischievous, since it was meant to excite this country against him and his government. He complained of the protection given to Georges and others of his description, who, instead of being sent to Canada, as had been repeatedly promised, were permitted to remain in England, handsomely pensioned, and constantly committing all sorts of crimes on the coasts of France, as well as in the interior. In confirmation of this, he told me that two men had, within these few days, been apprehended in Normandy, and were now on their way to Paris, who were hired assassins, and employed by the Bishop of Arras, by the Baron de Rolle, by Georges, and by Dutheil, as would be fully proved in a court of justice, and made known to the world.

He acknowledged that the irritation he felt against England increased daily, because every wind (I make use as much as I can of his own ideas and expressions) which blew from England, brought nothing but enmity and hatred against him.

He now went back to Egypt, and told me that if he had felt the smallest inclination to take possession of it by force, he might have done it a month ago, by sending twenty-five thousand men to Aboukir, who would have possessed themselves of the whole country in defiance of the four thousand British in Alexandria. That instead of that garrison being a means of protecting Egypt, it was only furnishing him with a pretence for invading it. *This he should not do, whatever might be his desire to have it a colony, because he did not think it worth the risk of a war, in which he might, perhaps, be considered as the aggressor, and by which he should lose more than he could gain, since, sooner or later, Egypt would belong to France, either by the falling to pieces of the Turkish empire, or by some arrangement with the Porte.*

As a proof of his desire to maintain peace, he wished to know what he had to gain by going to war with England. A descent was the only means of offence he had, and that he was determined to attempt, by putting himself at the head of the expedition. But how could it be supposed, that, after having gained the height on which he stood, he would risk his life and reputation in such a hazardous attempt, unless forced to it by necessity, when the chances were that he and the greatest part of the expedition would go to the bottom of the sea? He talked much on this subject, but never affected to diminish the danger. He acknowledged that there were one hundred chances to one against him, but still he was determined to attempt it, if war should be the consequence of the present discussion; and that such was the disposition of the troops, that army after army would be found for the enterprise.

He then expatiated much on the natural force of the two countries. France, with an army of four hundred and eighty thousand men; for to this amount it is, he said, *to be immediately completed*, all ready for the most desperate enterprises; and England with a fleet that made her mistress of the seas, and which he did not think he should be able to equal in less than ten years. Two such countries, by a proper understanding, might govern the world, but by their strifes might overturn it. He said, that, if he had not felt the enmity of the British government, on every occasion, since the treaty of Amiens, there would have been nothing that he would not have done to prove his desire to conciliate: participation in indemnities, as well as in influence, on the Continent; treaties of commerce; in short, any thing that could have given satisfaction, and have testified his friendship. Nothing, however, had been able to conquer the hatred of the British government, and, therefore, it was now come to the point whether we should have peace or war. To preserve peace, the treaty of Amiens must be fulfilled; the abuse in the public prints, if not totally suppressed, at least kept within bounds, and confined to the English papers; and the protection so openly given to his bitterest enemies, (alluding to Georges, and persons of that description,) must be withdrawn. If war, it was necessary only to say so, and to refuse to fulfil the treaty. He now made the tour of Europe, to prove to me that, in its present state, there was no power with which we could coalesce, for the purpose of making war against France; consequently it was our interest to gain time, and, if we had any point to gain, renew the war when circumstances were more favourable. He said it was not doing him justice, to suppose that he conceived himself above the opinion of his country or of Europe. He would not risk uniting Europe against him, by any violent act of aggression, neither was he so powerful in France, as to persuade the nation to go to war, unless on good grounds. He said that he had not chastised the Algerines, from his unwillingness to excite the jealousy of other powers, but he hoped that England, Russia, and France would one day feel that it was their interest to destroy such a nest of thieves, and force them to live rather by cultivating their land, than by plunder.

In the little I said to him, (for he gave me, in the course of two hours, but very few opportunities of saying a word,) I confined myself strictly to the tenor of your Lordship's instructions. I urged them in the same manner as I had done to M. de Talleyrand, and dwelt as strongly as I could on the sensation which the publication of Sebastiani's report had created in England, where the views of France towards Egypt must always command the utmost vigilance and jealousy. He maintained that what ought to convince us of his desire of peace was, on the one hand, the little he had to gain by renewing the war, and, on the other, the facility with which he might have taken possession of Egypt, with the very ships and troops which were now going from the Mediterranean to St. Domingo, and that with the approbation of all Europe, and more particularly of the Turks, who had repeatedly invited him to join with them, for the purpose of forcing us to evacuate their territory.

I do not pretend to follow the arguments of the First Consul in detail; this would be impossible, from the vast variety of matter which he took occasion to introduce. His purpose was evidently to convince me, that on Malta must depend peace or war, and, at the same time, to impress upon my mind a strong idea of the means he possessed of annoying us at home and abroad.

With regard to the mistrust and jealousy which, he said, constantly prevailed since the conclusion of the treaty of Amiens, I observed, that, after a war of such long duration, so full of rancour, and carried on in a manner of which history has no example, it was but natural that a considerable degree of agitation should prevail; but this, like the swell after a storm, would gradually subside, if not kept up by the policy of either party: that I would not pretend to pronounce which had been the aggressor in the paper war of which he complained, and which was still kept up, though with this difference, that in England it was independent of government, and in France its very act and deed. To this I added, that it must be admitted that we had such motives of mistrust against France, as could not be alleged against us; and I was going to instance the accession of territory and influence gained by France since the treaty, when he interrupted me, by saying, I suppose you mean Piedmont and Switzerland? "ce sont des bagatelles:" and it must have been foreseen, whilst the negotiation was pending! "Vous n'avez pas le droit d'en parler à cette heure." I then alleged, as a cause of mistrust and of jealousy, the impossibility of obtaining justice, or any kind of redress, for any of his majesty's subjects.—He asked me in what respect; and I told him, that, since the signing of the treaty, not one British claimant had been satisfied, although every Frenchman of that description had been so within one month after that period; and that since I had been here, and I could say as much of my predecessors, not one satisfactory answer had been obtained, to the innumerable representations which we had been under the necessity of making in favour of British subjects and property detained in the several ports of France, and elsewhere, without even a shadow of justice: such an order of things, I said, was not made to inspire confidence, but, on the contrary, must create mistrust. This, he said, must be attributed to the natural difficulties attending such suits, when both parties thought themselves right; but he denied that such delays could proceed from any disinclination to do what was just and right. With regard to the pensions which were granted to French or Swiss individuals, I observed, that they were given as a reward for past services during the war, and most certainly not for present ones, and still less for such as had been insinuated, of a nature repugnant to the feelings of every individual in England, and to the universally acknowledged loyalty and honour of the British government. That as for any participation of indemnities, or other accessions which his majesty might have obtained, I could take upon myself to assure him, that his majesty's ambition led him rather to preserve than to acquire. And that, with regard to the most propitious moment for renewing hostilities, his majesty, whose sincere desire it was to continue the blessings of peace to his subjects, would always consider such a measure as the greatest calamity; but that, if his majesty was so desirous of peace, it must not be imputed to the difficulty of obtaining allies; and the less so, as those means which it might be necessary to afford such allies, for, perhaps, inadequate services, would all be concentrated in England, and give a proportionate increase or energy to our own exertions.

At this part of the conversation, he rose from his chair, and told me that he should give orders to General Andreossy to enter on the discussion of this business with your Lordship; but he wished that I should, at the same time, be made acquainted with his motives, and convinced of his sincerity, rather from himself than from his ministers. He then, after a conversation of two hours, during the greatest part of which he talked incessantly, conversed for a few moments on indifferent subjects, in apparent good humour, and retired.

Such was, as nearly as I can recollect, the purport of this conferrence.

It must, however, be observed, that he did not, as M. Talleyrand had done, affect to attribute Colonel Sebastiani's mission *to commercial motives only*, but as one rendered necessary, in a military point of view, by the infraction by us of the treaty of Amiens. I have the honour to be, &c. WHITWORTH.

P. S. This conversation took place on Friday last, and this morning I saw M. de Talleyrand. He had been with the First Consul, after I left him, and he assured me that he had been very well satisfied with the frankness with which I had made my observations on what fell from him. I told him, that, without entering into any further detail, what I had said to the First Consul amounted to an assurance of what I trusted there could be no doubt, of the readiness of his majesty's ministers to remove all subjects of discussion, where that could be done without violating the laws of the country, and to fulfil strictly the engagements which they had contracted, inasmuch as that could be reconciled with the safety of the state.—As this applied to Malta and Egypt, he gave me to understand that a project was in contemplation, by which the integrity of the Turkish empire would be so effectually secured, as to do away every cause of doubt or uneasiness, either with regard to Egypt, or any part of the Turkish dominions. He could not then, he said, explain himself farther. Under these circumstances, no one can expect that we should relinquish that assurance which we have in hand, till something equally satisfactory is proposed and adopted. WHITWORTH.

The Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury, &c. &c. &c.

All his Lordship's previous and subsequent communications, which guided Lord Hawkesbury in his correspondence with General Andreossy, and which are to be found among our recorded State Papers, display the greatest acuteness and sagacity. He penetrated and baffled the enemies' designs; and the subjoined singular document unfolds the consequences:

Despatches from Lord Whitworth to Lord Hawkesbury, dated Paris, March 14, 1803.

MY LORD,—The messenger, Mason, went on Saturday with my despatches of that date, and, until yesterday, Sunday, I saw no one likely to give me any further information, such as I could depend upon, as to the effect which his Majesty's message had produced on the First Consul. At the court which was held at the Thuilleries upon that day, he accosted me, evidently under very considerable agitation. He began by asking me if I had any news from England. I told him that I had received letters from your Lordship two days ago. He immediately said, "And so you are determined to go to war." "No!" I replied; "we are too sensible of the advantages of peace."—"Nous avons," said he, déjà fait la guerre pendant quinze ans."—As he seemed to wait for an answer, I observed only, "c'en est déjà trop."—"Mais," said he "vous voulez la faire encore quinze annés, et vous m'y forçez."—I told him that was very far from his Majesty's intentions.—He then proceeded to Count Marcow, and the Chevalier Azara, who were standing together, at a little distance from me, and said to them, "Les Anglois veulent la guerre, mais s'ils sont les premiers à tirer l'epée, je serai le dernier à la remettre. Ils ne respectant pas les traités. Il faut dorénavant les couvrir de crepe noir."—He then went his round. In a few minutes he came back to me, and resumed the conversation, if such it can be called, by something personally civil to me. He began again: "Pourquoi des armémens? Contre qui des mesures de pràcaution? Je n'ai pas un seul vaisseau de ligne dans les ports de France; mais si vous voulez armer, j'armerai aussi; si vous voulez vous battre, je me battrai aussi. Vous pourrez peut-etre tuer la France, mais jamais l'intimider." "On ne voudroit," said I, ni l'un ni l'autre. On voudroit vivre en bonne intelligence avec elle. Il faut donc respecter les traités," replied he; "malheur à ceux, qui ne respectent pas les traités; ils en seront responsable, à tout l'Europe."—He was too much agitated to make it advisable for me to prolong the conversation; I therefore made no answer, and he retired to his apartment, repeating the last phrase.

It is to be remarked, that all this passed loud enough to be overheard by two hundred people who were present! and I am persuaded that there was not a single person who did not feel the extreme impropriety of his conduct, and the total want of dignity as well as of decency on the occasion.

I propose taking the first opportunity of speaking to M. Talleyrand on this subject. I have the honour to be, &c.

The Right Hon. Lord Hawkesbury, &c. &c. &c. (Signed) WHITWORTH.

Lord Whitworth did accordingly remonstrate with M. Talleyrand; but as no redress was to be obtained, after delivering in his *ultimatum*, and allowing a week for its acceptation or rejection, his Lordship left Paris on the 13th of May; within three days an order in Council was issued for reprisals, and a new war began.

The latter portion of the noble Lord's life was passed in comparative retirement and repose, at Knowle, the splendid and beautiful mansion of the Dorset family. Here he made himself popular and esteemed by all around him, whether high or low. When the country was threatened with invasion, he raised and clothed, at his own expense, 600 men, called the Holmesdale Battalion of Infantry, and frequently repaired to their head-quarters at Maidstone, to ascertain their condition and efficiency. On March 2nd 1813, he was made a Lord of the King's Bedchamber; and on the 14th of June following, was created a Peer of Great Britain by the title of Viscount Whitworth, of Aldbaston, in the County of Stafford. In August he succeeded the Duke of Richmond as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; which eminent office he filled till September 1817, when he was, in turn, succeeded by Lord Talbot. At the enlargement of the Order of the Bath in January 1815, his Lordship was made one of the twelve Civil Knights Grand Crosses; and in November, was advanced to the dignities of Baron Aldbaston and Earl Whitworth.

On the 13th of May 1825, these honours found a grave. The noble Earl died at Knowle after an illness of only three days, and, having no male issue, his titles became extinct.

In all the private relations of life, his Lordship was most exemplary—charitable to the poor, benevolent to all classes, affable to his equals, he was justly considered a pattern to English noblemen. His loss was severely felt by the hundreds of aged and infirm, to whom he afforded constant employment in his magnificent park; and the country round bore testimony to his high deserts, by the sincerity with which its whole population sorrowed over his honoured bier.

Painted by M. A. Shee, P.R.A. Engraved by H. Meyer.

SIR THOMAS MUNRO, BART. K.C.B.

Thos Munro

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1830.

MAJOR-GENERAL

SIR THOMAS MUNRO,

BART. AND K.C.B.

THE subject of this Engraving was born at Glasgow, on the 27th of May, 1761. He was the second son of Mr. Alexander Munro, a respectable merchant trading to America, and nephew, by the mother's side, to Dr. William Stark, the celebrated anatomist. His family was ancient, being a branch of the Munros of Dumbartonshire, but settled so long in the low country, as to have lost, at the period of his birth, all trace of clannish feeling.

SIR THOMAS MUNRO received his education at the High School and University of his native city. At both seminaries he was remarkable for an uncommon facility in the acquisition of knowledge; his talents being particularly quick, and his memory singularly tenacious. He possessed, moreover, a great taste for reading, which led him to devote many of his idle hours to the perusal of works well calculated to excite a mind, naturally bold and enterprising; and the consequence was, that he early evinced a decided predilection for the military profession. Nor was he less calculated to make a figure as a soldier, by the happy conformation of his body, than through the peculiar bent of his genius. Tall, well-formed, robust, and hardy, young Munro excelled his companions as much in every manly sport, as he surpassed them in literary attainments;—indeed it is stated of him, "that no one who beheld him engaged in such pursuits would have formed an idea that he ever gave a thought to other occupations."

Mr. Munro entered the military service of the East India Company at the age of eighteen, and served in the memorable campaign of 1780, against Hyder. He was present with Sir Hector Munro's army at Conjeveram, when the latter, whilst Col. Bailie's corps suffered annihilation, arrived too late, and went through the toilsome and disastrous retreat which ensued upon that catastrophe. When Sir Eyre Coote took the command, in the January following, Mr. Munro marched with his regiment from Marmeling. He assisted in raising the siege of Wandewash, was present at the battle of Porto Novo, shared in the investment and assault of Cuddalore, and bore a part in the action of Pollilore: in a word, no service was performed, from 1780 to the peace in 1784, which he failed to witness; and his gallantry was such as to secure for him, even then, the applause of his superiors.

The period from 1784 to 1788 was spent by Mr. Munro chiefly in making himself thoroughly acquainted with the institutions and languages of India. The reward of his diligence was, that he received an appointment in the intelligence department, under Captain Read, in which capacity he served during the war against Tippoo, which was conducted by Lord Cornwallis. On that occasion Captain Munro highly distinguished himself, not only by his prowess in action, but by the judicious arrangements which enabled him to provide supplies for the troops, and obtain information for the General; and at the conclusion of the contest, his Lordship's sense of his services was marked by the selection of him as joint commissioner with Colonel Read, for the introduction of the Company's government into the Baramahaul.

Captain Munro remained in the Baramahaul till the renewal of the war with the Sultan; when he at once resigned his civil office, that he might share the honor and hazards of the invading army. He was eminently useful in the campaign which followed, though not personally present at the capture of Seringapatam; and was especially selected as the individual best fitted to reduce to order the newly acquired province of Canara. In that wild and disturbed district, Captain

Munro spent about fourteen months: it was a period of incessant and irksome labour; for the country was in all its parts disorganized, and the population, naturally turbulent, were peculiarly licentious, and more than usually disposed to resist the operations of a regular government; yet such was the temper displayed by the collector, and so happy the system of acting which he adopted, that, in the short space of fourteen months, he perfectly reconciled them to their new masters.

From Canara, Major Munro was, in 1801, removed to the ceded districts, an extensive territory acquired by recent treaties from the Nizam. This was, if possible, in a state of greater anarchy than Canara,—each chieftain of a village being at open war with his neighbour chief, and many thousands of disbanded native soldiers acting here and there as bands of robbers. But here, as elsewhere, the firmness and judicious forbearance of the collector overcame all difficulties. He travelled from place to place, inquiring into the condition of the inhabitants, and administering justice on the spot; and he gradually taught even the most lawless of the partisans, to respect the government of which he was the representative. It is not a little curious, that three several tours were performed without the attendance of any guard. Major Munro knew, that such a guard as he could command would prove no real protection; he therefore trusted entirely to the innate reverence for authorities, which forms a leading feature in the native character; and his conduct in so doing, not only exposed him to no risk, but gained for him the love and veneration of the people in general. He was spoken of among them as their father; and his name is never mentioned at this day, without having some epithet, illustrative of affectionate veneration, attached to it.

Colonel Munro, after a residence in India of twenty-seven years, quitted it in 1807; from which date, up to the year 1814, he lived chiefly in London. This was a period of no common interest to all persons connected with our eastern empire, and in the debates and discussions which attended the renewal of the charter, Colonel Munro took an active part.

The degree of knowledge, indeed, which he displayed, both before the committee of the House of Commons, and elsewhere, was such, that, as soon as it was determined to appoint a commission for the revision of the system of judicial administration, Colonel Munro was nominated to be at its head. He accepted the appointment, merely because he was himself desirous that reform should be introduced into a system avowedly defective; and having married the amiable and accomplished lady who survives him, he set sail, in 1814, for Madras.

Colonel Munro's exertions to fulfil the expectations of those by whom he had been placed in his present situation, were ceaseless,—but a thousand obstacles, arising chiefly from the prejudice of others, stood grievously in his way. Still he effected much, and might perhaps have effected more, but for the breaking out of the Mahratta war in 1817, which called him away from the labours of civil employment, to command the reserve of the Deccan army in the field. At the head of no more than 500 regular troops, Brigadier-General Munro invaded the enemy's country. With this trifling force he besieged and took, by assault or capitulation, upwards of thirty forts; and when strengthened by the junction of General Pritzler's corps, defeated an army of upwards of 16,000 of the Peishwah's picked troops. The annals of British India, indeed, scarcely furnish a parallel to the brilliancy and daring of this campaign, which at once established General Munro's reputation as a great commander; nor is it the least striking circumstance attending his operations, that the British general literally turned the Peishwah's army against himself. He raised, as he proceeded, corps of men in the enemy's country, with which he garrisoned their strong holds, as one by one they fell into his hands.

At the close of the war, General Munro gave up his command; and, after a brief sojourn at the presidency, returned to England. His merits were, however, too highly esteemed by the minister of the day, to permit his retiring, as he wished, into private life. Within a few months after landing, he again set sail, in the capacity of Governor of Madras; the appointment having been conferred upon him, not only without solicitation, but absolutely without his knowledge.

For the first two or three years after this call to the scene of his early labours, India enjoyed a state of profound repose, and Sir Thomas Munro (for he had been lately honored with the insignia of K.C.B.) devoted the interval to a careful superintendence of the improved system, which he had been himself largely instrumental in introducing. This done, and the machine being set fairly in motion, the Governor applied to be relieved; but ere a successor could be nominated, war with the Burmese was declared; and a drought producing, as it invariably does in these latitudes, a famine in the Madras territories, Sir Thomas Munro was not a man to abandon the helm at a moment when the vessel seemed in danger. He withdrew his resignation, (a step which was highly applauded by the home authorities,) and devoted himself, with fresh vigour, to meet the difficulties that pressed upon him.

Throughout the continuance of the contest with Ava, the exertions of the Madras government, suggested and directed by its illustrious head, were such as to exceed all praise. One half of the army was sent abroad, either to Rangoon, Chittagong, or Calcutta, yet, with the remaining half, Sir Thomas contrived to preserve the most perfect order, which was never, within his province, for a moment interrupted. To his suggestions, moreover, it is perfectly evident, that almost all the wise measures adopted in the prosecution of the war were owing; whilst not a few, which must have led to mischievous results, were, on his remonstrating against them, abandoned. It is due, however, to Earl Amherst, the Governor-General for the time being, to avow, that he exhibited great firmness, as well as talent, under very trying circumstances,—not the least of his excellences being a total absence of that vanity, which too often prompts men in power to reject even the wise counsels of their inferiors.

The war being ended, Sir Thomas Munro again applied to the Court of Directors for an early release from the toils of office. Unfortunately, the home authorities did not display that zeal in meeting his wishes, which might have been expected, and he was constrained to remain in India long after the time when he had himself calculated upon quitting it. This was the more distressing, as Lady Munro, in consequence of the dangerous illness of their youngest son, was compelled to go home, and to leave him alone among comparative strangers. But they parted under the fond hope, that their reunion could not be very distant; and that hope served to rob the separation of a large share of its bitterness.

Sir Thomas Munro, partly with the view of seeking amusement to his own mind, and partly that he might make a last inquiry into the condition of his old friends in the Baramahaul, set out upon a tour into the provinces in the spring of 1827. The cholera chanced to be very prevalent at the time, and his friends would have advised him against incurring the risk attendant upon such an excursion; but, of personal fear Sir Thomas was ever devoid, and he turned a deaf ear to their remonstrances. He had proceeded but a little way on his journey, when the prognostications of his attendants were too surely realized. He was seized with the dire disorder whilst conversing with the collector of Putteecondah, about nine o'clock in the morning of the 6th of July; and at ten minutes before ten, on the same night, he expired.

Such is a brief outline of the public career of a man, to whom India has never produced a superior, either in the council or the field. With respect to his private life, it was marked by all those amiable and generous traits, which unite in forming the truly noble character; and which are never more beautiful than when we behold them adorning such talents as those possessed by Sir Thomas Munro. As a son, a brother, a husband, a father, and a friend, he was an object worthy of the most unqualified admiration. From the commencement of his career, he contributed largely towards the maintenance of his parents, whom the troubles in the colonies had reduced to comparative indigence; and, as his means increased, his liberality, both towards them and his relatives generally, increased in proportion. Nor was it only by possessing the purer feelings of the heart, that Sir Thomas Munro was distinguished from public men in general. His genius was at once brilliant and versatile; his knowledge on all subjects of literature and science was extensive; and his conversation, where he felt himself at home, is universally acknowledged to have been both instructive and amusing. But we must refer our readers, for a full knowledge of this extraordinary man, to the Memoir which has just appeared from the pen of the Rev. G. R. Gleig. In this, as a large collection of his letters are given, our readers will find ample proof, that our commendation, unqualified though it be, is not exaggerated.

From this most interesting work, the following quotation will show how highly General Munro's talents were appreciated by those best able to judge of them. Mr. Canning, in the House of Commons, on moving a vote of thanks to the forces in India, after applauding others as they deserved, thus eloquently and impressively spoke of Sir Thomas, then Colonel, Munro:—

"At the southern extremity of this long line of operations, and in a part of the campaign carried on in a district far from public gaze, and without the opportunities of early especial notice, was employed a man whose name I should indeed have been sorry to have passed over in silence. I allude to Colonel Thomas Munro, a gentleman of whose rare qualifications the late House of Commons had opportunities of judging at their bar, on the renewal of the East India Company's charter, and than whom Europe never produced a more accomplished statesman, nor India, so fertile in heroes, a more skilful soldier. This gentleman, whose occupations for some years must have been rather of a civil and administrative than a military nature, was called early in the war to exercise abilities which, though dormant, had not rusted from disuse. He went into the field with not more than five or six hundred men, of whom a very small proportion were Europeans, and marched into the Mahratta territories, to take possession of the country which had been ceded to us by the treaty of Poonah. The population, which he subjugated by arms, he managed with such address, equity, and wisdom, that he established an empire over their hearts and feelings. Nine forts were surrendered to him, or taken by assault, on his way; and at the end of a silent and scarcely observed progress, he emerged from a territory heretofore hostile to the British interest, with an accession instead of a diminution of force, leaving every thing secure and tranquil behind him. This result speaks more than could be told by any minute and extended commentary."

Sir Thomas Munro has left, besides his widow, two sons: the elder, who bears the name, and has succeeded to the title of his father, aged eleven; the younger, about six years.

W. Owen. Esq. R.A.

H. Robinson.

JAMES WALTER GRIMSTON, EARL OF VERULAM.

Verulam

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1830.

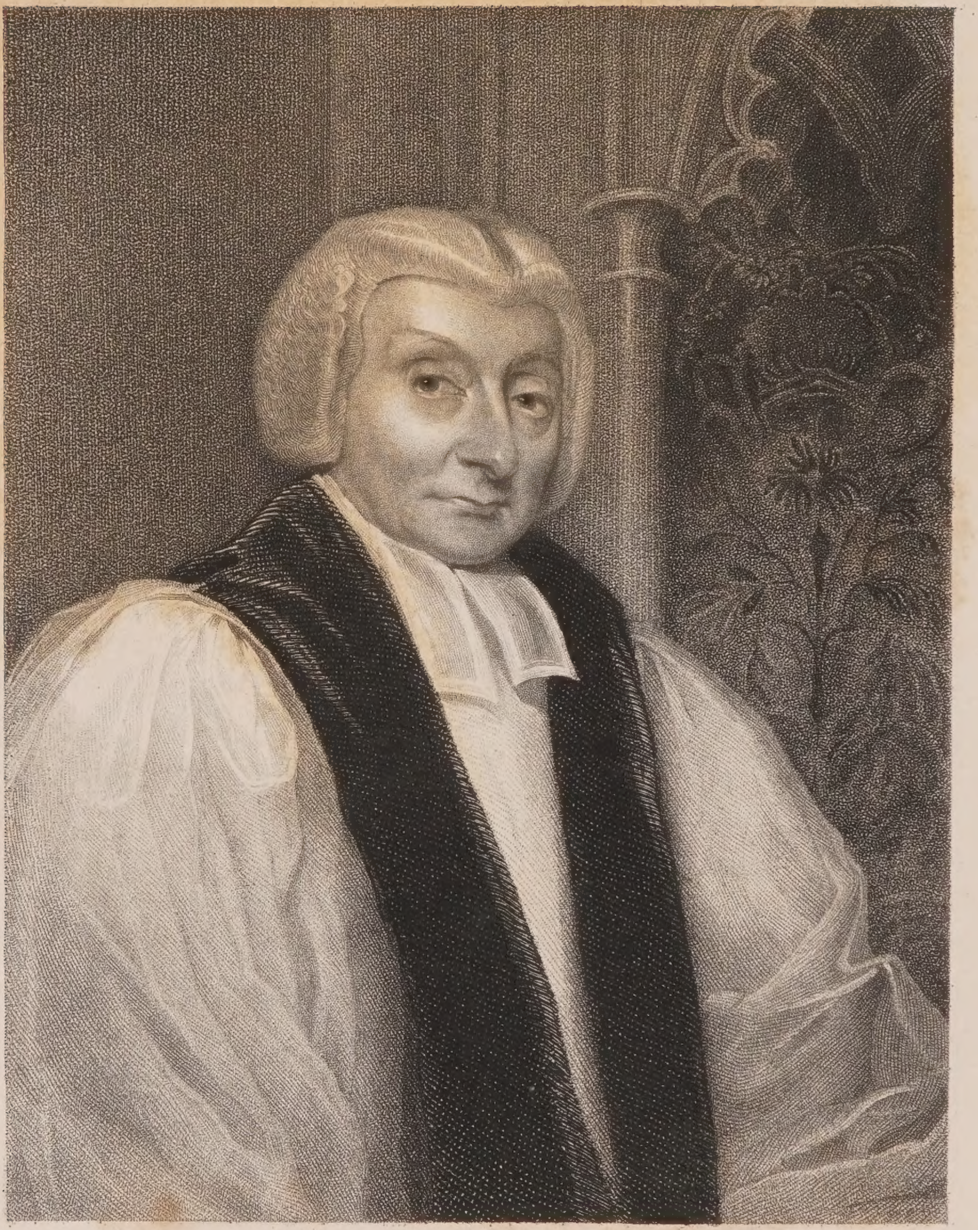
THE EARL OF VERULAM.

James Walter Grimston, Earl of Verulam, and Viscount Grimston, in the peerage of the United Kingdom; Baron Verulam of Gorhambury, in the county of Herts, in the peerage of Great Britain; Viscount Grimston, and Baron Dunboyne of Dunboyne, in the county of Meath, in the peerage of Ireland; Baron Forrester of Corstorphine, in the peerage of Scotland; and a Baronet of England—was born on the 26th of September, 1775; and, on the 11th of August, 1807, married Lady Charlotte Jenkinson, daughter of Charles first Earl of Liverpool, by whom he has had a numerous family of sons and daughters.

The origin and name of this noble house are to be traced to Grimston, in Yorkshire, where Sylvester de Grimston, Standard-bearer to William of Normandy at the battle of Hastings, settled at the period of the Conquest. Like the other great and warlike followers of the victorious invader, he was amply rewarded for his services by his royal master, to whom he did homage, not only for Grimston, but for Hoxton, Tonsted, and other lands, liberally granted to him out of the forfeited possessions of the Saxons. In the descent, we find many high persons forming alliances with the best blood in the kingdom, till we arrive at Sir Harbottle Grimston, Baronet, (of 1612,) who was distinguished in the reign of Charles I. and whose successor Sir Harbottle was appointed Speaker of the House of Commons at the restoration of the monarchy in Charles the Second.

Early in the last century the Baronetcy expired, in consequence of there being no heir male to Sir Samuel the third Baronet; but his large estates having devolved on his grand-nephew, William Luckyn, Esq. M.P. for St. Alban's, that gentleman assumed the name of Grimston, and was, on the 29th of May, 1729, elevated to the Irish Peerage by the titles of Baron Dunboyne and Viscount Grimston. James Bucknall, the third Viscount, was enrolled among the Peers of England, as Baron Verulam of Gorhambury, Herts, on the 9th of July, 1790,—a Scottish Barony (Forrester) having also fallen to the family, from an alliance with Henrietta, daughter of the fifth Baron; and, on the 24th of November, 1815, the exalted rank of an Earl, &c. of the United Kingdom was conferred on his son and successor, the present Lord.

The noble Earl has not taken any very conspicuous part in public life, since the demise of his father in 1809; though unquestionably a nobleman who has honorably and fitly discharged the duties of his high station, both as an hereditary legislator, and as the possessor of great dignities and a splendid fortune. Of such, though their ways are little protruded into notice, and their doings are as retired as is possible with regard to their elevated rank, the strength of the empire mainly consists. They trim the political balance; they superintend the administration of justice; they preserve the constitution of the country as by law established; and, whether in the princely residences of their ancestors, in the sphere of their immediate influence, or in the wider arena of general affairs, they possess and employ a power of a superior order and utility to that of any aristocracy on the face of the earth. In our happy land, above the people—they are of the people; their interests, their hopes, their liberties, their privileges, all depending upon the same common, united, and glorious basis.



M. Sharp Esq.

T. A. Dean.

HENRY BATHURST, D.C.L. LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH, F.S.A.

H. Norwich

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1830.

RIGHT REVEREND

HENRY BATHURST, D.C.L. F.S.A.

BISHOP OF NORWICH.

THIS distinguished prelate, who, born in the year 1748, has now reached the venerable age of eighty-two, was the son of Benjamin Bathurst, Esq. of Lidney, in the county of Gloucester, by Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Lawrence Broderick, and the grand-nephew of Allen first Earl Bathurst. Being intended for the church, he was placed at Winchester School, and, in due time, transplanted from that seminary to New College, Oxford, where he took the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law, on the 27th of October, 1768; and eight years later, June 5th, 1776, proceeded Doctor in Civil Law. His Lordship is the only Bishop upon the bench who holds any other academical honor but that of D.D.: the Archbishop of York, however, forms a similar exception to the common rule.

Early in life the great political influence of Mr. BATHURST'S family opened the way for him to high church preferment, his near relation having reached the eminent station, attended with all its clerical patronage, of Lord Chancellor of England. We accordingly soon find him a Canon of Christ Church, and Vicar of Cirencester, in the county of Gloucester, a parish in which the Bathursts have long possessed almost the whole, if not the entire property. After many years' residence at Oxford, he farther obtained a prebendal stall in the cathedral of Durham, in which city he lived during the episcopacy of Bishops Thurlow and Barrington, and only resigned the prebend on being elevated to the see of Norwich in 1805.

Upon undertaking the duties of this sacred office, his Lordship, at his primary visitation to his diocese in 1806, delivered a charge to the clergy, which opened those views respecting religious toleration, and particularly with regard to the professors of the Roman Catholic faith, which have since attracted so much notice, and, we may add, provoked so much discussion. "There was a time, said he, when the danger, from the increase of Popery, was thought to be so alarming, that the abilities of the statesman and of the divine were almost exclusively directed to that single quarter. In the theological controversies, which took place between the learned of both parties for more than a century after the glorious era of the Reformation, the superiority of the Protestant writers over their adversaries, both in erudition and argument, has, I believe, very rarely been questioned. Happy would it be for mankind, if, in matters of this nature, recourse were never had to any other weapons but those of reason and learning; but, unfortunately, these weapons alone were not then thought to be an adequate security either for church or state: laws, therefore, were enacted against known, and even against suspected, Papists, (which, as the late Lord Mansfield long since observed,) can be defended upon no ground but that of necessity. Force, however, in the concerns of religion, is unblessed and unavailing, or, at least, can produce only a transient effect; and this has uniformly proved to be the case wherever it has been made use of. This obvious and important truth seems now to be admitted on all sides. More enlightened and just ideas of toleration have of late prevailed, and have every where taken place of that over-heated religious zeal, which is alike the bane of public peace and of private comfort. Christians of all denominations appear at last to be convinced, that they are not required by their great Master, or by the maxims of sound policy, to support any particular mode of religious worship, by means directly at opposition to the end and design of all religion. It is but justice to say, that the Roman Catholics of this age and country have not been behindhand with Protestants in adopting these liberal and truly Christian sentiments.

Their conduct upon some recent occasions, and the unequivocal declarations made by them in a variety of publications, are strongly expressive of their total disapprobation of compulsion in religion, and also decidedly prove, that they disclaim many of those highly exceptionable tenets which were once a part of their creed. It would, therefore, be very unfair to involve in the guilt of the misguided zealots of former days, a body of men of far different character, and to whom it is our duty, and should be our inclination, to shew every mark of benevolence, both as Christian brethren, and as deserving fellow-subjects."

On the 27th of May, 1808, when Lord Grenville brought forward his resolution, to "consider the Petition of the Irish Catholics," the House of Lords witnessed the novel sight of the motion being supported by a Protestant Bishop. The Bishop of Norwich, in a maiden speech, gave his earnest aid to the proposition, and rebutted the arguments against it on four several grounds: first, that the religious tenets of the Papists were no longer such as to exclude them from office;—secondly, that they had a right, as British subjects, to enjoy civil and military appointments, and not as matter of favour;—thirdly, that it was now expedient, as well as just, to repeal the statutes against them;—and fourthly, that the coronation oath ought not to stand in the way of concession.

In the spirit of these declarations, and extending similar opinions in favour of Dissenters, the Bishop of Norwich has continued to write, to speak, and to act, to the present time, when the triumph of his principles may truly be said to have been achieved. He who, in 1806, stood alone in the Church of England hierarchy, as the advocate for the admission of Roman Catholics to the full and free participation of political rights, was, in 1829, one of ten Bishops, who voted with the majority, in the House of Peers, for that vastly important measure,—these being the Bishops of Chester, Derry, Llandaff, Litchfield and Coventry, Norwich, Oxford, Rochester, Saint David's, Winchester and Kildare.*

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* Three Archbishops, and seventeen Bishops, voted against the Bill.

Upon other points of church discipline and doctrine, the Bishop of Norwich has also taken very decided grounds. He seems to have considered the Church of England far more threatened by its internal differences, than by any external causes,—" *Intus est hostis*," he declares on one occasion, "the unity of this church is disturbed, and its existence endangered more and more every day—on the one hand by the mistaken zeal of ill-informed enthusiasts, and, on the other, by that widely-spread indifference and lukewarmness, which have pervaded so large a portion of its members. It is hard to say, which of these two extremes is most unfriendly to that pure and perfect system of faith and manners which we profess."

Against the evangelical class of the clergy, his Lordship has especially directed his animadversions; holding up those who "lay claim to irresistible influxes of divine grace," as persons who in many instances deceive themselves:—" Oppressed with melancholy, or intoxicated with vanity, he describes them as mistaking "the wild conceits of a disordered fancy, for the real influence of that Spirit which cometh down from the Father of lights, and the genuine source of which is, in all cases, best known by its fruits." Without prejudging their motives, he asserts, that to assume a title which appears to distinguish one part of the established clergy from another, to alienate a flock from their regularly appointed pastor, by exercising the spiritual gift of preaching or of exhorting wherever and whenever any zealous individual may think fit, can have no tendency but to injure our ecclesiastical establishment, by creating divisions where union is so indispensably requisite.

On the subject of education, his Lordship opposed himself to the Lancasterian method, and maintained that the young ought to be taught according to the plan laid down by the Fathers of the Church at the Reformation, in preference to the generalizing system of more modern days. He held that the distinguishing doctrines of Christianity must form a portion, if not the basis, of every plan of national instruction;

and his reasoning on this great question appealed to the public with double effect, in consequence of the known liberality of his opinions on other topics which involved religious or political considerations.

Among these we may notice that remarkable subject which has only within these few days been decided, as far as the present Parliament can decide it: we allude to the admission of the Jews to the rights of British citizens. Upon this, with perfect consistency of character, our octogenarian prelate made his appearance in the upper house, and shewed that he was equally favourable to the children of Israel, as he had been earlier in life, and throughout life, to Roman Catholics and Dissenters. And it should be stated to his honor, and would be allowed even by those most opposed to him in principle, that in enforcing the cosmopolitan ideas which he has ever entertained, the venerable Bishop has uniformly displayed the utmost moderation and calmness. If he has been wrong, his errors have at least only relied on reasoning for their support; and at the very advanced stage of existence which he has now attained, it would be indeed the height of all uncharitableness to doubt the integrity and sincerity of his own convictions, or the benevolent intention of his purposes. Indeed, a striking testimony was borne to these sentiments in a pamphlet recently published by the excellent Bishop of Salisbury, and addressed to his brother of Norwich. In this able letter, while the learned author repels the charge of bigotry and prejudice which Dr. Bathurst had, in a tone rather inconsistent with his general candour, imputed to those who opposed the Roman Catholic claims, he at the same time takes the opportunity of doing justice to the motives of one, whom he cannot help considering as the holder of opinions inimical to the Church of which he is a member, and irreconcileable with his oath as a Protestant Bishop.

In 1808 the Bishop of Norwich being nominated to preach the annual sermon for the 30th of January, before the Lords Spiritual and Temporal; he chose for his text the appropriate words from 1 Samuel, chapter viii. verse 19., "Nay, but we will have a King over us." His sermon on this occasion was published; and may be quoted among his works which are thus enumerated :—

The Charge to his Diocese, 4to. 1806.

The Sermon just mentioned, 1808.

A Sketch of the Ecclesiastical Establishment, in a Sermon preached in the Parish Church of Great Yarmouth, at the Visitation of Archdeacon Yonge, 1809.

Another Sermon, 1810, 4to.

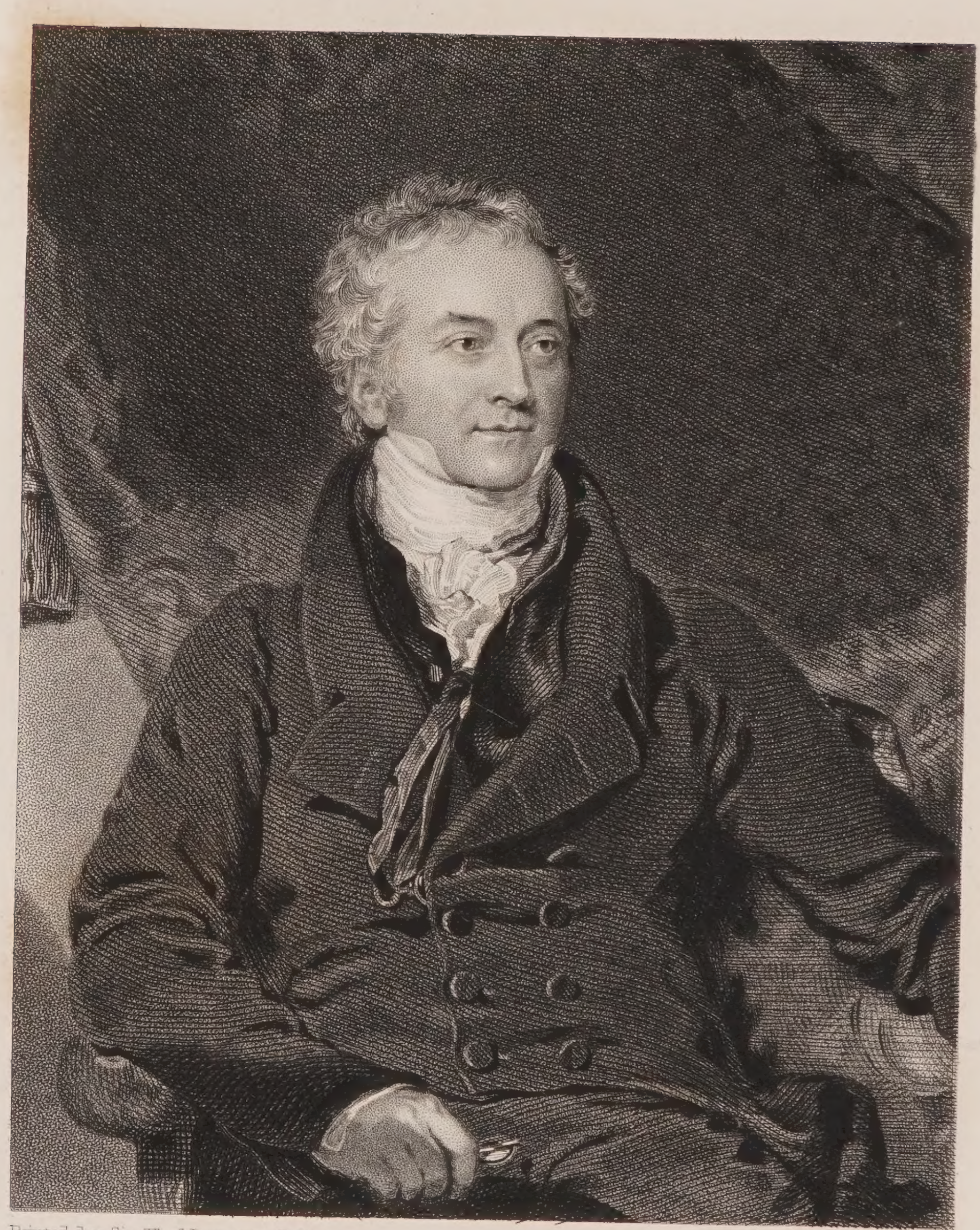
The True Spirit of the Church of England, considered in a Charge, 1815, 4to.

Christianity and Present Politics, how far reconcileable: in a Letter to Mr. Wilberforce, 1818.

In his politics, the Bishop of Norwich has always adhered to the Whig party; and was so intimately connected with them, as to have his health toasted by the Club—a compliment rarely paid by it to the Bench.

In his diocese his Lordship is much and generally esteemed, in spite of the great difference of opinion which has divided his clergy, not only on questions of high importance, but on minor points; such as the facility of giving ordination, and the trivial matter of playing whist. On both these subjects there have been some public controversy—the Bishop having, on the first, been charged with interference in the concerns of other diocesans; and on the second, with laxity unbecoming a church dignitary. On both he has defended himself firmly and temperately; and, *non nostrum tantas componere lites.*

The Bishop married Miss Grace Coote, daughter of the Reverend Charles Coote, Dean of Kilfenora, in Ireland, and of the noble family of Montrath and Castlecoote. By this lady his Lordship has had several children; the eldest of whom, James, rose high in the military service.



Painted by Sir Thoˢ Lawrence, P.R.A.

Engraved by G. Adcock.

THOMAS YOUNG, M.D._F.R.S._F.L.S. &c. &c.

Thomas Young MD
Sec. R.S.

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1830.

DR. THOMAS YOUNG, M.D.

F.R.S. F.L.S. ETC. ETC.

Dr. Young, a man almost unequalled in the variety and extent of his acquirements, was born at Milverton, Somersetshire, June the 13th, 1773; and was the oldest of ten children. His father was Mr. Thomas Young, whose wife was a niece of the eminent London physician, Dr. Richard Brocklesby. His parents were Quakers, and he was almost self-educated from a very early period, during which he resided with his maternal grandfather, Mr. Robert Davis, of Minehead, a mercantile gentleman, but, fortunately for his charge, one who also cultivated a taste for classical literature. Thus the seed was sown in infancy, and at six years of age, it is stated, that the young tyro used to repeat, not only English, but Latin verses, to his well-pleased grandsire.

After a short attendance at the seminary of a dissenting minister, Thomas was sent to school at Bristol, where he remained about eighteen months, and so far outstripped his worthy instructor, that he confirmed that habit of self-tuition, of which, as we have noticed, his future learning was principally the fruit. The complexion of his studies was also influenced, by having, whilst yet a child, the use of the mathematical and philosophical instruments, belonging to an ingenious land-surveyor, a neighbour of his father's, whose dictionaries, &c., of arts and sciences, were greedily consulted by his inquisitive companion.

At the age of nine, he went to the school of a Mr. Thompson, at Compton, Dorsetshire; a man of enlarged understanding, and the owner of a library, in the stores of which his pupil could quench some of his literary ardour. Here Young read through the usual course of Greek and Latin authors; and became master of the elementary parts of mathematics, in addition to his previous acquaintance with land-surveying. As a relaxation, too, from graver labours, he made himself conversant with the Greek and Italian languages; and acquired a knowledge of botany, optics, and fluxions, as the ruling passion of the hour prevailed, being, however varying in his object, always constant in his search for information. To crown this miscellaneous store of acquisition in a lad of fourteen, Mr. Thompson having left a Hebrew Bible in his way, he took up the task, and was soon a tolerable Hebrew, Persic, Arabic, and Oriental scholar.

In 1787, the precocious talents thus displayed, led to the introduction of Mr. Young to Mr. David Barclay of Youngsbury, Herts; and it was arranged, that he and the grandson of that gentleman should pursue their studies together. Circumstances added the future erudite author of the Calligraphia Græca, to this juvenile association; but though he was considerably the elder, the general direction of the course of education devolved on the active and enterprising spirit of Mr. Young, during the whole time of their continuing together, till about 1792. These five momentous years, it may readily be supposed, largely increased the mental stores of our youthful Telemachus in pursuit of knowledge: the summers were passed at Youngsbury, (the name is a curious coincidence, if contradiction can be called so,) and a few of the winters' months in London, where, with the occasional assistance of masters, he rendered himself familiar with the best writers of antiquity, keeping copious notes of his daily progress, in that beautiful penmanship which was afterwards so much admired in his copies of Greek compositions, and of Egyptian inscriptions. At this period he was in the habit of analyzing the opinions of the ancient philosophers whom he read;—a practice which, probably, contributed to his forsaking the peculiar tenets of the sect with which his birth and parentage connected him. He wrote Latin with great facility, and composed elegant Greek verses.

The higher mathematics, botany, zoology, and entomology, were also his studies or amusements; and chemistry occupied his attention for a while, though he aimed at the application of what had been ascertained, in preference to the task of experimenting for the sake of discoveries.

DR. THOMAS YOUNG.

It cannot be a matter of surprise, that this extraordinary exhibition of industry and power, should have won for our subject the regard of his uncle, Dr. Brocklesby, by whom some of his Greek translations and other performances, were shown to Mr. Burke and Mr. Windham, with both of whom he lived on terms of intimacy. These accomplished scholars were much struck by the ability thus manifested; and to the vivid interest expressed by the former, is attributed the anxiety with which Dr. Brocklesby attended to his settlement in life, as a physician. "It may probably be considered, (says a very acute judge of human action,*) that it was in these years, that his character received its development. He was never known to relax in any object he had once undertaken. During the whole term of these five years, he was never seen by any one ruffled in his temper: whatever he decided on, he did. His maxim was, that whatever one man had done, another might do. And at this season, in the confidence of youth, his feeling went to add, that there was nothing which had been achieved by others, he did not recognise in himself the power to perform, and nothing which could be performed, which he was not resolved to master."

His first efforts in the press were communications to the Monthly Review, and the Gentleman's Magazine, in 1791: they consisted of Greek Criticism, Chemical Theories, and Remarks on Botany and Entomology. In 1792, he took lodgings in Westminster, and devoted himself to attendance on medical and anatomical lectures, and to the most diligent study of his profession at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. During the ensuing year he visited Cornwall, to examine its mineralogical treasures; and was nearly turned from his adopted course, by the offer of the office of Assistant Secretary to his house, from the Duke of Richmond, Master-General of the Ordnance; and by the conflicting advice of Burke and Windham, to proceed to

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* And an early friend of Dr. Young; to whom we are principally indebted for the materials of this memoir. A similar sketch will, we believe, be prefixed to Dr. Young's posthumous Egyptian Dictionary; a work in every respect of extraordinary interest.

Cambridge, and study the law:—his predilection for the practice of physic, however, prevailed, and in 1794 he went to the famed school of Edinburgh, where Black, Monro, and Gregory, were the presiding luminaries of the healing science.

Previous to this, he presented his "Observations on Vision" to the Royal Society, and had the honor to be elected a Fellow of that distinguished body, when he had just completed his twenty-first year. His theory of the muscularity of the crystalline lens of the eye provoked much discussion, and was claimed by the celebrated Dr. John Hunter as a prior discovery.

At the University of Edinburgh Mr. Young continued his studies in every branch, with his usual intenseness of purpose; and it was here that he separated himself from the Society of Friends. But the mere accomplishments of life were to him equally with the most recondite problems, matters to be scientifically attained; and when he set about supplying the deficiencies of his early Quaker habits, he taught himself to play the flute, to dress, to dance, with the same order and precision as if he had been expounding Plato, or unravelling Newton. No wonder that he speedily mastered these accessories to the man of the world, and became the social companion, as well as the learned oracle. His bodily was not unworthy of his mental activity, so that physical strength was not wanting to bear him through the toils of incessant application, as it had enabled him to shake off a threatening pulmonary complaint with which he was attacked when about fifteen years of age. At all periods of his life he was free from the dissipations too common to youth; but fond of gymnastic exercises, such as horsemanship, running, leaping, and other feats of agility.

In the autumn of 1795, he again sought change and improvement by going to the University of Gottingen, where he took his doctor's degree in the spring of 1796, and excited the astonishment even of that laborious school by his almost incredible industry and wonderful attainments. Their library supplied him with rich references for his inaugural dissertation "de Corporis humani viribus conservatricibus." Well versed in the language and literature of Germany, he visited Dresden (where he spent some time in studying the works of Italian art in the fine gallery of that city), and Berlin; and in February 1797 returned to London, the grand mart for all competition in the arts, in science, and in every liberal profession. But in consequence of some new regulations of the College of Physicians, being prevented from immediately practising as a Licentiate, he entered himself of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and took his regular degrees in physic in that University.

At the close of this year his uncle, Dr. Brocklesby, died, leaving the major part of his fortune to his nephew, Mr. Beeby, and the remainder, with his house, books, and pictures, to Dr. Young, who being thereby raised to comparative independence, soon gratified his taste by enlarging the circle of his academical friends, and forming many intimate and gratifying connexions, which were only dissolved by death. While at Cambridge, he gave some papers to the Royal Society, and wrote several Essays, &c. in periodical publications, a selection of which he afterwards reprinted in a separate work, omitting only such light and airy trifles as he deemed unworthy of preservation. In 1801, having completed his university course, Dr. Young settled as a Physician in Welbeck-street, where he continued to reside for twenty-five years. It does not appear that he ever got into great practice, and his pursuits partook of that variety which tells of more leisure than a well-employed physician can command. He accepted the situation of Professor of Natural History in the Royal Institution, and was for two years the colleague, as lecturer, of Sir Humphry Davy, as well as editor and principal composer of the first and second volumes of the Journals. He also delivered the Bakerian Lectures on Light and Colours to the Royal Society, and in 1802 published a Syllabus of a course of lectures in Natural and Experimental Philosophy, with mathematical demonstrations of the most important theorems in Mechanics and Optics. In this was contained his first statement respecting the general law of the interference of light, which has ever been justly reckoned one of his most important philosophical discoveries. As a public lecturer, however, Dr. Young was not calculated to be popular: he was too profound for his auditors, and his explanations were so compressed and laconic as hardly to merit the name, except to the initiated few.

In the summer of 1802, Dr. Young, in his medical capacity, accompanied the present Duke of Richmond and Lord George Lennox to Rouen, visiting Paris, and making the acquaintance of many of the savans of that capital, who at a future period elected him a Member of their National Institute. On his return he was constituted Foreign Secretary to the Royal Society, an office which he held during his life, being long their senior officer, and always a leading and efficient member of the council.

In 1804, Dr. Young married Miss Eliza Maxwell, of Cavendish Square, and at this time resigned the Lectureship of the Royal Institution, as being likely to interfere with his professional pursuits. In 1807, he published his "Course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy and the Mechanical Arts," in two vols. quarto; an elaborate production, the result of five years' severe application and research. But the booksellers who had undertaken it unfortunately failed at the time of its issuing from the press, which threw such a damp upon its success, that it never repaid its expenses. It is nevertheless a treasury of useful knowledge, and contains a multitude of hints for what have since been claimed by others as original discoveries and inventions. In 1810, the author was appointed Physician to St. George's Hospital.

The summer seasons he passed in Worthing, for a number of years, with the view to general practice in his profession—having never (as we have observed) attained that eminence in London which seemed to be due to his great abilities. His medical works prove him to have investigated the science deeply, and to have devoted his mind to its details as well as its fundamental principles: still, though respectably employed, he failed to reach that golden distinction attained by some of his learned brethren, more fortunate in their efforts, without being more gifted with judgment, skill, and intelligence.

Among his other literary performances, Dr. Young contributed a considerable variety of articles to the Quarterly Review; not only on medical subjects, but on questions of miscellaneous literature. His Review of Adelung's Mithridates is perhaps the most remarkable of these essays, and its intrinsic value, as a treatise on the structure of ancient languages, is enhanced by the consideration, that its composition led the Reviewer to the inquiry respecting the lost literature of Egypt, by which he has immortalized his name. Papyri brought from that country, and the fragment of the famous Rosetta stone in the British Museum, were the foundations of this interesting occurrence. Copies of the three Inscriptions on the latter having been published by the Society of Antiquaries, Dr. Young, after examining the Enchorial record, and then the hieroglyphics, and minutely comparing them with an acuteness rarely excelled, perceived that he had found a key to the literature of the ancient world, lost to man for thousands of years. He printed some remarks on these points in the 18th volume of the Archæologia, but still continued to prosecute his investigation with redoubled energy. In 1816, he published a letter addressed to the Archduke John of Austria, and another to Professor Akerblad, in which he announced his discovery of the relation between the Egyptian characters and the hieroglyphics—a discovery of matchless literary importance, and which being followed up by Dr. Young himself, by M. Champollion, and by other distinguished scholars, both in England and on the Continent, is now gradually bringing to light the annals of ages which had been buried in the oblivion of distant time, since the earliest settlements of civilized men. In 1821, Dr. Young, unquestionably the first penetrator of this secret, published the entire results of his discoveries in the Encyclopedia Britannica, under the head *Egypt*. For this work he furnished, besides, sixty-three articles, scientific, biographical, and literary, his signature being two consecutive letters of the sentence *fortunam* *ex aliis;* for he had been disappointed in his early hopes and expectations, and felt, while honored and greatly noticed abroad, that his doings in his native land were, like those of the prophets of old, not sufficiently esteemed. Perhaps this was partially owing to the dispensing of his anonymous wealth through so many different channels: had he concentrated his force, and put it forth in a systematic way, there is no doubt that he must have stood far higher in public opinion. At Paris, which he visited twice in 1817, Dr. Young's reception was very flattering, and he received testimonies of their regard from Baron A. Von Humboldt, Arago, Gay Lussac, and other distinguished ornaments of foreign science and literature.

In the succeeding year, he was named, by a commission under the Privy Seal, in conjunction with Sir Joseph Banks, Sir George Clerk, Mr. Davies Gilbert, Dr. Wollaston, and Captain Kater, a commissioner for taking into consideration the state of the weights and measures employed throughout Great Britain; and he acted as secretary at the meetings of this Board, supplying the scientific calculations, &c. attached to the three Reports laid before Parliament in 1819, 1820, and 1821. Towards the end of the year 1818, Dr. Young was also appointed Secretary to the Board of Longitude, with the charge of the supervision of the Nautical Almanack. The salary attached to this office removed all anxiety respecting the extension of his medical practice; he discontinued his professional residence at Worthing, and in 1821 performed a hasty tour of Italy, an object he had never ceased to desire, and which was now rendered more interesting to him than in the days of his younger ambition, from its possessing so many Egyptian monuments for his examination and study.

From this date to the end of his life, Dr. Young continued to write astronomical and nautical papers in Brande's Philosophical Journal, contributions to the Royal Society, and articles for the Supplement to the Encyclopedia Britannica, including one upon "Tides," which he valued as a happy result of his mathematical labours. He made excursions at different times to the Continent—to Paris in 1823, and to Spa and

Holland in 1824; and published several works on various philosophical subjects. Among these, was his account of some recent discoveries in hieroglyphic literature and Egyptian antiquities, in which he printed his own original alphabet, translations from papyri, and the extensions which that alphabet had received from M. Champollion. At this period he formed a Society for the Cultivation of Egyptian Literature, which lithographed a number of plates of inscriptions, hieroglyphics, paintings, and antiquities; but it languished until the design was taken up by the Royal Society of Literature, under the patronage of which the work has been continued, and some very curious fasciculi given to the public.

In 1824, Dr. Young undertook the medical responsibility and mathematical direction of a Life Assurance Company; and in 1826 removed from Welbeck-street to a house which he had built in Park-square, Regent's Park, where he led a life most congenial to his mind. In his own words, it "was little else than the pursuit of such fame as he valued, or at least of those acquirements which he thought deserving of it." But his long and uninterrupted good health failed in the midst of this rational career. In 1828, there was an obvious diminution of his strength; and a journey which he took to Geneva almost overwhelmed him with fatigue. This unusual phenomenon was but too certain a presage of premature decay, and an early tomb: yet still he pursued his labours, made calculations for the Nautical Almanac, researches into the probability, &c. of human life; and additions to his works on the Literature of Ancient Egypt. Government having economically thought fit to abolish the Board of Longitude, to save about five hundred pounds a year, the only salaries given for the encouragement of science in this country, Dr. Young was, by the reformed constitution, directed, as the calculator for the Nautical Almanac, to execute the duties which the Board had performed. This arrangement caused much heart-burning and strife, and a paper-war ensued, in which the friends of the parties dispossessed of office, were not sparing of bitter censure upon those who had superseded them. Another council, in connexion with the Admiralty, was subsequently appointed, consisting of Dr. Young, Captain Sabine, and Mr. Faraday, and upon them devolved the duties of the late Board. This measure also was severely impugned, and Dr. Young in particular was fiercely attacked, accused of errors in the Nautical Almanac, and greatly annoyed by an almost incessant guerilla warfare waged against his character and publications. His mind, however, rose superior to these vexatious accusations, and found repose in the consciousness of its own rectitude; but disease continuing to prey upon his constitution, he died May 10th, 1829, at the age of fifty-six, with the calmness and resignation of one who had endeavoured through life to benefit his fellow-creatures, and who could contemplate its close with the serenity of a conscience void of offence.* His remains were interred in Farnborough church-yard, and a handsome monument is preparing for him, by Chantrey, to be erected in Westminster Abbey, as a memorial for future generations.

Eminent alike in literature and science, Dr. Young was gifted with that species of universal knowledge which is hardly to be met with among the brightest ornaments of mankind. In Greek and classic lore only inferior to his friend Porson, (of whom he has written so fine a sketch,) he was equally great in the exact sciences; and, in short, in all that could be acquired without the aid of imagination, of which he was destitute, he was an extraordinary example of cultivated intellect and profound information. But we prefer quoting the observations of a much abler individual, upon his attainments and character, to any thing we can advance of our own.

"Dr. Thomas Young," said the President of the Royal Society, in his address delivered at their last anniversary, when he had to notice the extinction of three such lights as that gentleman, Wollaston, and Davy—

"Dr. Thomas Young came into the world with all the advantages of early ability, cultivated by academical education and improved by foreign travel, and with a confidence in his own talents growing out of an expectation of excellence entertained in common by all his friends; an expectation more than realized in the progress of his future life.

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* It is a striking fact, that Dr. Young, whose confidence in himself throughout the greater portion of his life was so great, as almost to deserve the name of obstinacy in some instances, became timid and suspicious of his own powers, when they were most matured.

"Mathematics, in the most abstruse recesses of modern improvements; astronomy, theoretical and practical; experimental and mechanical philosophy; chemistry; natural history; ancient and modern languages; philology; in addition to the regular practice of medicine; were carried to such an extent that each might have been supposed to have exclusively occupied the full powers of his mind.

"One thus highly endowed by the gifts of nature, and stored with the multifarious fruits of labour and of assiduous application, might well be imagined to have satisfied himself with the possession of abstract or general knowledge, disposed rather to speculate on systems than to descend into the region of individual facts. On the contrary, Dr. Young, as if time could be extended at his will, has peculiarly distinguished himself by labour in detail.

"We have from him A Course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy, and the Mechanical Arts, in two volumes, quarto; a work replete with the most minute and multifarious details, and with references to all known writings on the different subjects.

"We have from him Elementary Illustrations of the Celestial Mechanics of Laplace, displaying such powers of rendering simple and familiar the obscurities of a work in all other respects equal to the highest expectations of the present age, that one cannot but deeply regret the sudden discontinuance of what promised so much utility to the rising generation, by smoothing difficulties, and thus leading on young minds to the attainment of what the Greeks, *κατ εξοχην*, denominated Learning.

"Dr. Young did not neglect to illustrate various subjects connected with his more immediate profession. Among several others, a Treatise on Consumption has obtained a considerable degree of reputation. But the most difficult investigations gave him, in all probability, the greatest delight. The corpuscular and vibratory theories of light; the motions and oscillations of fluids, with the theory of the tides; the nature and powers of capillary attraction; were objects of his peculiar and successful attention. Magnetism as connected with electricity; the magnetism and figure of the earth; the whole theory of chances, with the probable duration of human life; the difficult task of determining, with an accuracy sufficient for scientific purposes, the exact interval between the line of suspension and the centre of oscillation, of bodies not assumed to possess any strict geometrical forms or unvarying densities; the different temperatures of the Diatonic scale—are among the various subjects illustrated by his care: while the duties of Secretary to the Board of Longitude, involving a minute and constant superintendence of the Nautical Almanac, throughout all the stages of its construction and final publication, were sufficient, during many years, to have absorbed a large portion of the time of any ordinary man. But, at the very moment when these duties had become, from different causes, most burdensome on his mind, a new object for pursuit was found, and eagerly followed through fields heretofore unexplored. The military occupation of Egypt by an European power in the concluding years of the last century, together with the investigations made during that time into the stupendous and interesting remains of antiquity still preserved in that far-famed country, did not fail of exciting an ardent curiosity throughout the civilized world, respecting the figures and characters engraved on the most durable materials, but of which nothing had been known since the revival of letters, beyond a traditional account, derived from ancient writers, of their being hieroglyphics. The discovery, however, of some Polyglot inscriptions having been supposed likely to afford a key, several men of great learning and in different countries joined eagerly in the career of deciphering them; among whom Dr. Young is supposed to have maintained the precedence which he first gained. One very curious and important fact has been established beyond the reach of doubt or controversy. When foreign nations, the Persians, the Greeks, and the Romans, gained possession of the country, and learnt the use of these symbolical characters, they endeavoured in succession to express the particular sounds of their own languages in proper names, by using the hieroglyphic as an acrostic of the word with which it had been previously associated in the original designation of things. The same process is said to be now actually in progress with the symbolic characters of China, making a certain limited number of characters Acrostic and Phonic: and thus has been developed the only rational manner in which the greatest of all human inventions, the formation of an alphabet, could have been achieved. As a precious yet melancholy gift, we may shortly expect a posthumous work on the Egyptian or Coptic language, in part dictated by the dying breath of this most distinguished person, of whom it may therefore be truly said, that from the tomb he illuminated mankind.

"I must here conclude my inadequate and superficial sketch, drawing, however, if one may be permitted to do so, an inference from one so pre-eminent; that, although expatiating through the fields of science and of literature, he has successfully collected flowers from all, appropriating the well-known passage of Lucretius,

> Floriferis ut Apes in saltibus omnia libant,
> Omnia nos.

"Yet, referring to an equally well known apology for his condensed mode of writing, prefixed to the Aphorisms of Hippocrates,

> ʽΟ Βιος βραχυς· ἡ δε Τεχνη μακρη,

we may be allowed to hope that others of less powerful abilities or of less persevering energy of mind, may concentrate the objects of their research within the limits of some defined portion of science, rather than make inadequate endeavours to embrace the whole."

A printed Catalogue of Dr. Young's productions, mentions no fewer than eighty-two pieces—Letters, Essays, Articles in periodical publications, Lectures, &c. &c. of which the annexed are the most striking:—

A Syllabus of a Course of Lectures on Natural and Experimental Philosophy; 8vo. London, 1802: presenting a Mathematical Demonstration of the most important Theorems in Mechanics and in Optics; and containing the first publication of the general law of the Interference of Light.

A Course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy and the Mechanical Arts: two volumes, 4to. London, 1807.

A Syllabus of a Course of Lectures on the Elements of the Medical Sciences; 8vo. London, 1809.

An Introduction to Medical Literature, including a System of Practical Nosology, 8vo. London, 1813.

A Practical and Historical Treatise on Consumptive Diseases: 8vo. London, 1815; being a condensed abstract of every thing recorded to have been said or done with regard to Consumption.

Extracts of Letters and Papers relating to the Egyptian Inscription of Rosetta, in the Museum Criticum of Cambridge, Part VI. 8vo. 1815; a Correspondence with MM. Silvestre de Sacy, and Akerblad.

Account of some Thebaic Manuscripts, written on leather. Legh's Narrative, 4to. London, 1816.

Additional Letters relating to the Inscription of Rosetta; the first addressed to the Archduke John, who had lately been in England; the second to Mr. Akerblad, Museum Criticum VII. *The Letters were printed and distributed in* 1816; *the Journal was not published till* 1821. They announce the DISCOVERY of the relation between the different kinds of Egypttan Letters, or Characters—the basis on which the system of M. Champollion was afterwards erected.

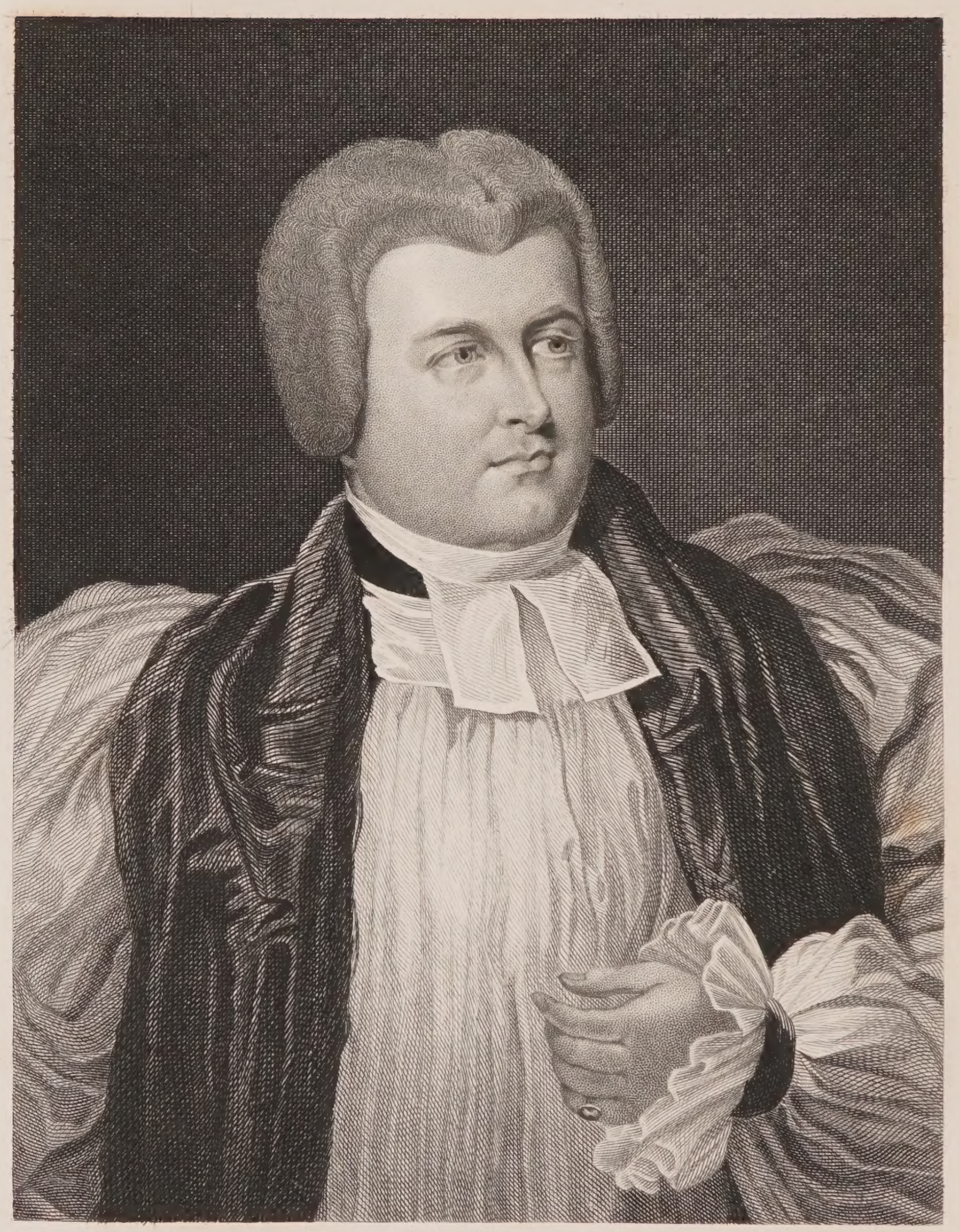
Dr. Young edited the Nautical Almanac, from 1819, for the remainder of his life.

Elementary Illustration of the Celestial Mechanics of Laplace, 8vo. London, 1821; with some additions relating to the motions of Waves, and of Sound, and to the cohesion of Fluids.

An Account of some recent Discoveries in Hieroglyphical Literature and Egyptian Antiquities, including the author's original Alphabet, as extended by M. Champollion, 8vo. London, 1823; with a translation of some Greek Manuscripts on Papyrus, the most remarkable of which was Mr. Grey's "Antigraph" of an Egyptian original then lying on his table; the discovery of which singular coincidence was the immediate cause of the publication of the volume.

Hieroglyphics, collected by the Egyptian Society, folio, London, 1823—a collection of Plates of Egyptian Antiquities subservient to the study of Hieroglyphical Literature, lithographized at the expense of about fifty subscribers, but not at that time publicly sold.

Dr. Young left also—Rudiments of an Egyptian Dictionary in the ancient Enchorial Character; containing all the Words of which the Sense has been ascertained. Intended as an Appendix to Mr. Tattam's Coptic Grammar.—(This Work was under the hands of the Lithographer at the time of his death, and is that to which we have alluded, as being nearly ready for publication.)



G. Hayter, M.A.S.L. T. A. Dean

ROBT. JAS. CARR, D.D. LORD BISHOP OF CHICHESTER.

R J Chichester

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1832.

THE RIGHT REV.

ROBERT JAMES CARR, D.D.

BISHOP OF CHICHESTER,

CLERK OF THE CLOSET TO THE KING, AND CANON RESIDENTIARY OF ST. PAUL'S.

THE peculiar and interesting duties which this Reverend Prelate has recently been called upon to discharge, render the present a most suitable and proper occasion to introduce his Portrait into our National Gallery. The sacred office of attending to the spiritual concerns of our beloved King during the long period in which it has pleased Almighty Providence to afflict him with earthly sufferings, and purify his spirit for an immortal world, is one so invested with every attribute which can touch the hearts of the people of England; that we are persuaded, the common sympathies of the nation will be gratified by our presenting it with this Memoir, (however imperfectly accomplished) at the moment when so many feelings are attached to the individual whom it represents.

The Bishop of Chichester, selected by His Majesty to attend him throughout his severe illness, to speak the words of holy consolation to his ear, and pour the balm of religious comfort into his soul, has for many years been honored by his Sovereign's personal favour and regard. He was the associate of his riper manhood more than thirty years ago, and his companion in many hours when the enjoyments of life, and not the near prospect of its closing scene, were likely to occupy the thoughts of robust health and vigorous age: and it is a matter of high gratification to mark the gradual beauty of the change, as the busy period of nature passes away, and the affections and ties that bind us so strongly to transient things are dimmed and loosened, so that in the wise dispensations by which we are governed, the pangs of separation are diminished, and the final leave-taking of all is made less dreadful and appalling. To the throned Monarch and the mitred Bishop, as well as to the humble artisan and lowly peasant, this is the universal law; and when we contemplate it in the most exalted sphere, it ought to impress the lesson more deeply on our minds, and teach us to live, as if we had acquired an added certainty that we too must die.

Though it was hardly possible to look at the subject before us, without being led into a moralizing vein, yet we are conscious, that it belongs not to our province to administer lectures to our readers. We shall, therefore, proceed at once to the few particulars, which we deem it requisite to include in this narrative.

The Bishop of Chichester is the son of a churchman. His father, the Rev. Mr. Carr, was originally a resident at Twickenham, where he received pupils, and performed the services at Roehampton Chapel. From this he was transferred to Ealing, to the living of which he was presented by his friend, Bishop Porteus. Other preferments were also afterwards bestowed upon him in the county of Essex; and in all his clerical course, he was a man much esteemed and respected.

Of his family, the late Colonel Carr, who married the widow of Mr. Perceval, was one of the branches, and the subject of our present Memoir another. After going through the usual process of school education, Robert James was sent to Worcester College, Oxford, where he completed his studies in divinity, and took the several degrees to D.D.

JAMES CARR, D.D. BISHOP OF CHICHESTER.

After holding for a while some inferior preferments, he was appointed Vicar of Brighton at the time when that town was the favourite resort of the Prince, afterwards George IV. to whose attention he was thus again fortunately advanced. In this situation, the eloquence of his sermons, the piety of his life and conversation, and the refinement and amiable qualities of his mind, recommended him more and more to the gracious consideration of the King. Nor was he held in honor by Royalty alone, for in the whole range of the Court, (beset as every Court is with conflicting interests and perplexities,) no divine ever acquitted himself in a manner better calculated to secure universal approbation, than the accomplished and virtuous individual under our notice.

It should also be recorded to his credit, that his general popularity was attained by no sacrifice of principle, no compromise of his sacred duties. On the contrary, Dr. Carr was held to be rather strict in the enforcement of religious observances, and to lean considerably to that portion of the Church which is known by the name of evangelical. Be this as it may, it was not by pliancy that he advanced his cause in the Royal breast; and the public saw him elevated to the Bench with entire satisfaction, as a man who had rendered himself worthy of that dignity, and one every way qualified to discharge so important a trust.

Dr. Carr was consecrated in the year 1824, and, besides his Bishopric, he holds a Canonry in St. Paul's Cathedral. His Lordship was one of the Bishops who voted against the Roman Catholic measure of last year, and though he did not speak on any of its stages, his decided opposition was indicated by his presenting petitions against it from the county of Sussex, the clergy, &c. of Lewes, and from other places, and bodies of men.

His Lordship having married a lady of good fortune, is enabled from private independence to meet the many claims to which his station is exposed, without the pain of calculating accurately how much his christian elevation can spare to distress; for it is hardly known to what extent the feelings and benevolence of persons in this rank of society are urged, in the cause of charity. To discriminate, and to act with liberality, is we know their general character—to go even beyond their means, the admirable fault of some of them—and we have every reason to believe that the Bishop of Chichester fully sustains the apostolic virtue, which ought in every instance to belong to his exalted order.

J. S. Copley Esq.re R.A.

Benjm. Holl.

GEORGE JOHN SPENCER, EARL SPENCER, K.G.

Spencer

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1832.

GEORGE-JOHN SPENCER,

EARL SPENCER, K.G.

A MEMOIR of this distinguished nobleman must embrace a double view of his career and character, both of which are presented to us in colours of great attraction; for his public life and services are happily blended with a private and literary history, equally fair and worthy of admiration.

GEORGE JOHN SPENCER, Earl Spencer, Knight of the Garter, Fellow of the Royal Society and Society of Antiquaries, Viscount Althorp, Viscount Spencer, and Baron Spencer of Althorp, in the county of Northampton, was born on the 1st of September, 1758. He was the son of John, the first Earl, by Margaret Georgiana, the eldest daughter of Stephen Poyntz, Esq. of Midgham, Berks, and descended from the third Earl of Sunderland, whose youngest son married the daughter and coheiress of the renowned Duke of Marlborough, and Anne Churchill, the grandmother of the present Lord.

The early part of the young Lord's education was confided to a private tutor; after which he was sent to Harrow, with a suite and attendance of such state, as even at that time, when aristocratic dignity was maintained with more of form and splendour than it has been since, to be considered an innovation on the equality of school discipline. But though his father might deem a carriage only a fitting appendage for the elevated rank of his son, it is obvious that such parade made no impression on the mind of the son himself, who grew up in unaffected simplicity and singleness of character. At Harrow he enjoyed, for a short while, the advantage of having Mr., afterwards Sir William, Jones for a tutor; and, on his leaving the school, was committed to the charge of Dr. Heath, the head master, in whose house he resided. His Lordship proceeded in due time to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of M. A. in 1778. At College he was esteemed an elegant and accomplished classical scholar; and his manners corresponded with the possession of a cultivated understanding and a refined taste, being amiable and courteous, so that he engaged the esteem and regard of all by whom he was surrounded, whether seniors and instructors, or contemporary students and associates.

The grand tour, as it was called, being then considered indispensable to the complete education of a gentleman, his Lordship performed it at the usual age in the usual way; laying in stores of information for his more mature years, and for the guidance of that public responsibility which a person of his rank and weight in the country must so soon be called upon to share. On his return home, he was accordingly sent to parliament, as the representative of the borough of Northampton. Connected, by birth and relationship, with the greatest Whig families in England, one of his sisters having, in 1774, married the Duke of Devonshire, and the other, in 1780, the Earl of Besborough, Lord Spencer naturally set out in his political course upon Whig principles, and attached himself to that party in the House, which was strenuously opposed to the administration of Lord North. Their efforts proving successful, Lord Spencer was, on the overthrow of the ministry in 1782, appointed a Lord of the new Treasury, and re-elected for Northampton; though he afterwards came in for the county of Surrey, which he represented when, in 1783, he succeeded to the peerage, on the death of his father. The Earl had previously married, March 6, 1781, Lavinia, the daughter of Sir C. Bingham, afterwards Earl of Lucan; of which marriage was born, in 1782, John Charles Viscount Althorp, the heir apparent to the title. Two younger sons are Captains of honorable distinction in the

British navy; one son was in the Church of England, but he has lately relinquished his profession, and adopted the Roman Catholic faith; and two daughters, severally united to Lord Lyttelton, and to George Quin, second son of the Marquis of Headfort.

Tracing Lord Spencer's parliamentary life, we do not find that he spoke frequently or long, either in the House of Commons, or in the Peers' House; but he took his part in the business of the day, and, both from his rank and talents, possessed a marked influence among the leading statesmen of his age; while his opinions were looked to with respect upon all the great questions which agitated the nation, and involved the destinies of Europe. Of these questions, the mightiest of all was the French Revolution, the doctrines of which were espoused by one set of men with the most ardent zeal and passion, while another denounced them as fraught with every evil that could afflict mankind. Lord Spencer, upon the issuing of the King's proclamation in the critical year 1792, openly dissevered himself from the friends of the people, as they were styled, and, with the moderate Whigs, threw the strength of his support into the side of Government. Dreading the threatened storm, and anxious to preserve the institutions and property of his country from wreck and plunder, he not only left the revolutionary party to their wild pursuits, but joined the ministry of Mr. Pitt; and was, on the 20th of December, 1794, appointed as the successor of Lord Chatham, to the high and responsible station of First Lord of the Admiralty—a post at all times requiring great ability and integrity, and never displaying more of either than it did under the auspices of Earl Spencer!

The naval administration of his Lordship, from 1794 to June, 1800, when he retired with Mr. Pitt, was a proud period in the maritime history of England; illustrated as it was by the glorious victories of St. Vincent's, of Camperdown, and of the Nile,—the splendid exploits of a Jervis, a Duncan, and a Nelson. The spirit of the British navy rose to its highest pitch; activity, prudence, justice, and impartiality, pervaded its councils at home, and, abroad, every action was crowned with honor and triumph. It is true, that the portentous mutiny at Spithead, in 1797, also disfigured this epoch; but even in that painful affair, nothing occurred to disgrace the fame of our gallant tars, or to bring down reproach upon the management of the Admiralty: the former, while seeking a redress of their grievances, still displayed the courage and loyalty of Britons; and the latter, by moderate, judicious, and conciliatory measures, healed the wound which might have produced the most fatal consequences.

Indeed, it is stated to us, by officers who had opportunities of witnessing the conduct of Lord Spencer at the head of the Board, that it was altogether deserving of eulogy. He was at all times easy of access; and his deportment encouraging and affable. The claims of merit were not disregarded in the distribution of employment and promotion; and seldom has the extensive patronage of the office been bestowed more entirely to the satisfaction of the service. His Lordship was also assiduous in the discharge of his duties, and indefatigable in his personal exertions. We believe it was under his favour that Mr. Brunel's ingenious and valuable inventions in block-machinery, were introduced into our dock-yards; together with many other improvements made in these important depôts, which have since contributed in no small degree to our naval superiority. We have heard it told as an anecdote, (without being able to answer for its authenticity,) that Mr. Brunel's fine device for cutting ship-blocks, was ultimately adopted from one of those chances which sometimes help clever men more than extraordinary talent and persevering industry. Like the generality of projectors who offer schemes to Government, he had, it is said, wasted many a day in fruitless endeavours to get his plans accepted and tried: at length, weary with deferred hopes, he presented a mechanical toy to Lady Spencer, into which a pack of cards being put, it could be so regulated as to deal them out to any number for a round game. The ingenuity of this trifle attracted so much notice, that the artist was immediately brought forward; and much of the rapidity with which future ships of war could be rigged and fitted for sea, was the result, of a little box which saved fair dames the trouble of dealing cards for the amusement of a home circle. Be this as it may, the office of First Lord of the Admiralty and the Navy, while under Lord Spencer's superintendence, acquired a reputation of the highest order; a reputation hardly augmented by the vigilant, paternal, and able ministry of a Dundas.

We have observed that Lord Spencer retired with Mr. Pitt, in 1800. In 1801, in the debate upon the peace with France, he spoke in disapprobation of that event, which he deplored as a calamity, notwithstanding the enthusiastic joy with which the people had hailed it. He considered the country degraded, and that no single object of the war had been gained. We had sacrificed, in his opinion, every means of protection, by cessions of countries in every quarter of the world, which the valour of our forces had conquered, and which would have secured us from the effects of the aggrandizement of France on the Continent. It had been said that we had protected our allies. What was the fact? How had we protected Portugal? It appeared that it was only a portion of her territory whose integrity was to be preserved. A part of the important province of Olivenza was to be ceded. Our ally, the Prince of Orange, was not even named in the preliminaries, although, from his faithful attachment to us, he had lost both his territories and his station. Could it be said that Ceylon and Trinidad gave either sufficient indemnity for the past, or security for the future? In India the bravery of our army had subdued Tippoo Saib, and placed the country out of danger; but by this peace, which surrendered to the enemy the Cape of Good Hope and Cochin, we afforded them an entrance into Malabar; while in South America, we had permitted Portugal to cede to France a strong military position at the mouth of the river Amazon. In the West Indies we had surrendered Martinique, and left the French in the possession of St. Domingo. In the Mediterranean we had surrendered every thing, to our own exclusion; and in Malta the French were to have equal footing with the English. In short, he saw nothing but a precarious peace. It was said, it was the interest of France to maintain this peace; but who had learned to calculate the interest of an usurper? If ever peace was precarious, this was that peace. If ever precarious peace was dangerous, this was that peace. The French principles were triumphant, and adorned with all the attraction and dignity of success. He felt sorry to differ from ministers, but considered it now most peculiarly his duty to support such measures of vigour, as might give the country a chance of safety.

This brief epitome may afford some idea of the noble Earl's style and manner in parliamentary elocution, and also of the opinions which he held at the crisis alluded to, in which he has been consistent from the time that it was imperative upon every British statesman to make his election between the subversion and the defence of the existing order of things. The only other public act we have to record is, his acceptance of the office of Secretary of State for the Home Department, in 1806, and its resignation in 1807, when the short-lived union of parties, which could scarcely be held in combination even for one year, under the title of "all the talents," was dissolved.

Althorp Park, the seat of this noble family, is situated in the parish of Brington, about five miles to the west of Northampton. Prior to the days of Henry VII. it was the property of John Catesby, Esq., of Legers Ashby, by whom it was sold, during the above reign, to John Spencer, Esq. From that period to the present, the estate has, without any interruption, been in the regular possession of his succeeding heirs.

In the year 1783, a tour into Derbyshire and Yorkshire was published by Mr. Bray, who thus describes this venerable mansion: "About five miles to the west of the town (Northampton) is Althorp, an old seat of the Spencers, (now Earls,) built in shape of an half H. It stands low, and in the approach you go through and cross those straight avenues of trees, which were once deemed the line of beauty. The rooms are not large, except the library and gallery, the latter of which is 138 feet by 20. In this is a collection of portraits, hardly perhaps exceeded by any in the kingdom, not only in point of number, but of beauty. The famous beauties of Hampton Court are far short of those which the pencils of Cornelius Janssen, Vandyck, Lely, Kneller, &c. have placed here. A small piece of Henry VIII. by Holbein, (in this gallery;) a small round portrait of that master, by himself, (in the picture closet;) and a boy blowing a lighted brand, are reckoned of great value."

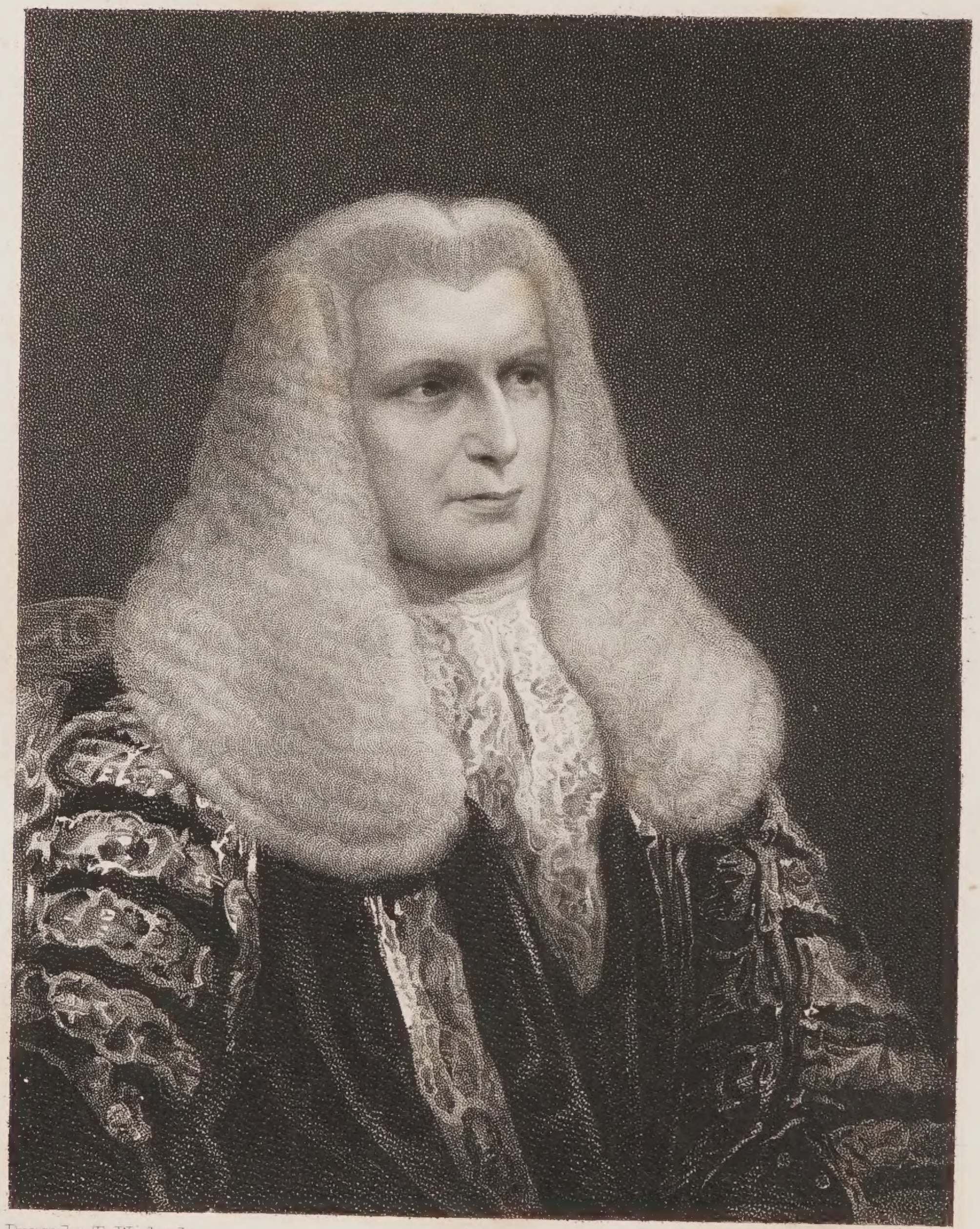
The ancient mansion having become dilapidated, the present house was built by the Earl of Sunderland, in 1688. Mr. Dibdin observes respecting it, that "There is neither colonnade, nor vestibule, nor terrace, nor fountain, nor lake, as you approach the mansion, nor studied grandeur of architectural decoration, as you enter it; but comfort, order, peace, unanimity, good management, choice society, and splendid cheer. These are the interior attractions which supply the place of silken hangings, gobelin tapestries, gilt balustrades, and all the pomp and circumstance of elaborate and overwhelming furniture."

It is not, however, to the building and its surrounding scenery, but to the splendid library, and to the magnificent collection of pictures, which this mansion contains, that the attention of the reader is more particularly directed. The number of volumes at Althorp is estimated at about forty-five thousand; and the paintings are so numerous, as well as choice, that no description, within our limits, can convey an idea of their excellence. They must be seen and examined, to be fully appreciated.

Instinctively attached to the charms of literature, if not the patron of literary enterprise, Earl Spencer, on retiring from public life, has found increasing delight in his favourite studies. We need not, therefore, be surprised that he, formerly one of the most eminent members of the Roxburghe Club, should now find ample amusement and employment in one of the best libraries in Europe. Himself a fine classical scholar, and, as we have heard, a very skilful emendator of Greek, Latin, and Italian authors—his taste, judgment, and fortune have procured for him very numerous works of inestimable value and rarity; and to learned men of all countries, his book-treasures are liberally opened.—The note sounded by the lyre of Sotheby to his honour, speaks this sentiment in elegant language :—

"————————— The immortal meed be thine,
That freedom wreathes the Patriot's brow around!—
For at thy Country's call thou, foremost found,
Didst leave the groves where Science wont to twine
Thy chaplet richly grand with classic flowers.
Yet Britain claims thy care :—yet firmly guide
Her fleets, to conquest borne on every tide—
So shall fair Peace, with Glory in her train,
Woo thee to Althorp's tranquil haunts again,
And Victory's naval crown adorn the Muse's bowers."

Earl Spencer, besides his family and hereditary honors, is Lord Steward of St. Alban's, a Governor of the Charter House, and an Elder Brother of the Trinity. Like Mr. Thomas Grenville, a sketch of whose biography appeared in a preceding part of this work, the autumn of his useful life is spent in those high intellectual enjoyments, which are to be found with the sages of all times, congregated in a manner to satiate the most ardent thirst of knowledge, and afford the deepest luxury to the philosophic mind.



Drawn by T. Woolnoth. Engraved by T. Woolnoth.

JOHN-SINGLETON COPLEY, BARON LYNDHURST.

Lyndhurst

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON 1832.

THE RIGHT HON.

JOHN-SINGLETON COPLEY,

BARON OF LYNDHURST,

LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR OF ENGLAND.

JOHN-SINGLETON COPLEY, who has risen to the highest legal honors to which a subject of England can aspire, is the son of John-Singleton Copley, Esq., an eminent Painter, and a member of the Royal Academy. This gentleman, it is stated in an American Journal, was born at Boston, the capital of the state of Massachusets, whence he emigrated to this country, at the close of the war of Independence, and pursued the profession of an artist with very considerable distinction and success. His earliest productions were portraits, but his ambition to shine in the higher walks of art, was neither unsupported by adequate ability, nor repressed by the failure of his exertions. He painted several works of great merit and popularity; and both fame and emolument attended them. His celebrated large picture of the Death of the Earl of Chatham, the most distinguished of these, has deservedly attracted much notice, not only at the time of its first exhibition, but ever since, whenever it has been accessible to the public; and also in its multiplied reproduction from the hands of the engraver. It is, indeed, an interesting historical record, in which the event is treated with great pictorial effect, while the series of portraits give it an individual and national value, belonging only to the best conceived and most skilfully executed efforts of the pencil.* Mr. Copley died at an advanced age, on the 9th of September, 1815, at his house in George Street, Hanover Square; the house in which his distinguished son now resides, and in which, we believe, he has collected as many of his father's paintings, as circumstances have enabled him to procure.

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* Among the other distinguished works of this eminent artist, we ought to mention, the Siege of Gibraltar, with portraits of Lord Heathfield, and the chief officers of the garrison: this large picture formed an exhibition of itself in the Green Park. The Death of Lord Chatham was also an exhibition, together with the Death cf

The future Lord Chancellor, who was born 21st of May, 1772, after proceeding through the usual course of school education, where his early talents were sedulously and judiciously cultivated, was entered of Trinity College, Cambridge. At this University, his career was honorably marked by his bearing off Smith's mathematical prize from Butler, then senior wrangler, and afterwards the master of Harrow School. In 1794, when about twenty-two years of age, he took his degree of B. A.—was elected Travelling Bachelor, in 1795—and in 1797, Master of Arts. Of Trinity College, he also became a Fellow, but as he preferred the Bar to the Church, he only held that station for seven years.

On leaving the University, he accordingly became a student of law in the Temple, and in due season was called to the exercise of that profession. Like the vast majority of young men who adopt a similar course, he attended the courts for a long while, without having any opportunities afforded him of rising from the junior ranks, into celebrity and eminence. His first, and his only literary performance, with which we are acquainted, is the "Case of a double Return for the Borough of Horsham," which was published in 1808. After this, he appeared as counsel in several state trials of extraordinary popular interest; and amid the political ferment of these occasions, his strenuous endeavours for the prisoners, and the powers which he displayed, made his name familiar with the multitude, as a friend to reform, and tended to recommend

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Major Pearson, another very interesting painting. Mr. Copley's farther most memorable productions, were, the Youth, (afterwards Sir Brooke Watson,) rescued from a Shark, in the harbour of the Havannah; Samuel and Eli, also engraved; and the Tribute Money, perhaps his *chef d'œuvre*, which he presented as his Admission Picture at the Royal Academy, and still one of the greatest ornaments of the Council Room.

him to increased practice as a barrister of promising zeal and professional ability. In the cause of Dr. Watson, he was the coadjutor of Sir Charles Wetherell; and in that of Arthur Thistlewood, he was also conspicuous, though his utmost endeavours were unavailing, to save that sanguinary conspirator from the merited fate of an assassin and traitor. It is curious, among the vicissitudes of lawyers' lives, to find, within a few years, the placarded, toasted, and triumphantly lauded "Wetherell and Copley," the ardent pleaders for the treasonable, and the idols of the mob, (who assuredly construed their legal exertions into an affection for radicalism and rebellion,) converted into the Knights Sir Charles and Sir John, and the King's Attorney and Solicitor General. But so it was, and without the slightest dereliction of principle in either. Previously to this advance, however, Mr. Copley was made a Serjeant at Law, in Trinity term, 1813. In 1818, he was appointed to the office of Chief Justice of Chester; and on the first day of Hilary term, 1819, he took his seat within the bar, as one of His Majesty's Serjeants learned in the law.—We ought to mention, that he had previously been engaged for the Crown in government cases, and attended the special commission at Derby, for the trial of Brandreth and his associates.

Having gained this ascent, the rest, though attended with all the difficulties which the topmost pinnacle presents, was more easy; and many favourable events facilitated the further elevation of our subject to the enviable dignity which he has since attained. In 1819 he was appointed Solicitor-General; and in that capacity took a leading part in the trial of Queen Caroline by the House of Peers. Upon this occasion his speeches and line of conduct were impressed with a spirit of extreme moderation; and he seemed carefully to guard himself from being considered in any other light than that of an official prosecutor. This was so obvious, that some of the heated partisans of the measure alleged against him a want of energy approaching to lukewarmness in the cause; but if we may judge by his rapid progress thenceforward, and it is a fair criterion, no feeling of this sort arose to impede his advancement in the breasts of the higher authorities, who were most concerned, and best able to form a correct opinion of his labours. In 1824, he was created Attorney-General; and re-elected for the borough of Ashburton, of which he had for some time been the representative in Parliament. At the last general election in 1826, he aspired to a still higher parliamentary honor, and became a candidate for the representation of his Alma mater. The contest was a severe one, but he finally obtained a majority of votes, and was returned, with Lord Palmerston, for the University of Cambridge. Soon after, the premature death of Lord Gifford opened the way to yet higher prospects. Sir John Copley was promoted to the Mastership of the Rolls; and re-elected by his constituents of Cambridge to the seat which that appointment had vacated. The woolsack was now fairly before him, as an object not merely of hope, but of likely attainment; and the favouring events to which we have already alluded, continued to smooth his path, and hasten the accomplishment of his wishes. Lord Eldon retired from the place, the duties of which he had so long and so memorably discharged, earlier than could have been anticipated; since, notwithstanding his years, and the wear and tear of much mental as well as corporeal energy, from a devotedness to constant and toilsome business, his continuance in office was a much greater probability than his so speedily making room for a successor. The important question of Catholic emancipation seemed the only barrier in the way, as the ministry had determined to carry that measure, and Sir John Copley, as a member of the House of Commons, had delivered his sentiments very strongly on the opposite side. But as the course of time, and the state of the kingdom, led many others to take a different view of the case, from what they had previously done; so the Master of the Rolls went over to the expediency and policy of granting the concessions which he had been the advocate for withholding; and there was then no obstacle to the Great Seal being committed to his custody. His peerage was granted by patent, April 27, 1827.

RIGHT HON. BARON LYNDHURST.

As Lord High Chancellor of England, and Speaker of the House of Lords, Lord Lyndhurst has, since his elevation, taken a full share in ministerial transactions, and acquitted himself of his duties on the bench with persevering attention. The nature of his preceding practice had not peculiarly shaped his mind for a profound acquaintance with the rules and precedents of the Court of Chancery; but his acknowledged acuteness and soundness of judgment were such, that it was not to be apprehended he would commit any serious mistakes in the administration of equity. His decisions accordingly appear to have been satisfactory to suitors and to the bar; and during the late Session of Parliament he has supported several propositions for alterations and improvements in our legal institutions, where indeed there is ample room for both, for the sake of justice and the benefit of every class of the community

Returning to the walks of private life, we have to state, that in 1819 his Lordship married Sarah Garay, daughter of Charles Brunsdell, Esq., and the widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Thomas of the first Foot Guards, who was almost a bridegroom when he fell at the glorious battle of Waterloo. By his lady, who is celebrated for her beauty and grace, Lord Lyndhurst has three children, all daughters, and severally born in 1821, 1822, and 1828. He is himself a person of imposing presence and manly appearance. In speaking either at the bar, or on the bench, or in Parliament, his manner is insinuating or energetic, as the occasion and arguments seem to require; and in all places there is a clearness and abstinence from parade in what he says, which gives the hearer the idea of a logical and disciplined understanding, that aims more at convincing by plain sense, than by dazzling by ambitious declamation.

In the midst of the severe application which is called for by his great and numerous charges, we are well pleased to record his Lordship's hereditary taste and affection for the Fine Arts; the ornament of the Statesman or the Monarch. We have seen him preside at one of those anniversaries which are intended to promote the benevolent patronage of the Arts;

and all that he uttered at the meeting did equal honor to his head and heart. Indeed, we have never witnessed him display so much true feeling, even where topics of the deepest interest called forth his elocution; and we hailed it as a gratifying trait of character, that the son of an Artist, who had raised himself to the highest judicial station in the realm, should be thus moved, in the presence of those who were the friends and the associates, or the children and successors of the friends and associates, of his Father.

Lord Lyndhurst, besides the great offices we have named, is Official Visitor of Oriel College, Oxford, and of Pembroke and Catherine Hall, Cambridge: he is *ex officio* Trustee of the British and Hunterian Museums, and, as is well known, possessed of immense patronage both in the Church and the Law. His is indeed a situation of prodigious power and responsibility, but of so high a character, that we may almost be allowed to regret its recent vindication from scandal by a prosecution for libel. The licentiousness of the press is, it must be admitted, a notorious and provoking evil; but a Lord Lyndhurst ought to be above the flight of its shafts; for though eminence exposes the mark, it also sets the object beyond the injury of the malevolent marksman!

Painted by Mon^{s} Rochard.

Engraved by W^{m} Holl.

JAMES DUFF, K.F. EARL OF FIFE, K.T.

Fife

FISHER, SON & C^{o} LONDON. 1832.

JAMES DUFF,

EARL OF FIFE,

K.T. K.F.

JAMES DUFF, Skene of Skene, the present Earl of Fife, is the fourth Earl, since the title was restored to the family.

Descended from the ancient Earls of Fife, and lineally from the brother of the thirteenth Earl, his Lordship was educated at Westminster School, where he was placed by his uncle, who took charge of him and of his brother, General Alexander Duff. He was afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford, and his uncle being desirous that he should study the Law, he was entered at Lincoln's Inn, for a short period. Formerly, this was a part of the education of heirs, even to large properties in Scotland, in order that they might be the better able to superintend the management of their own private affairs. His Lordship's uncle also prevailed on the celebrated comedian Bannister, to give his nephew lessons in reading and declamation. This arose from his having been told by Lord Loughborough, that he had derived the greatest advantage from similar studies, under the father of R. B. Sheridan. Mr. Bannister's pupil had, however, no opportunity of shewing, at the Bar, whether he had profited by the lessons of his master, as he soon relinquished all thoughts of following the learned profession of the Law; but on several occasions, when obliged to appear in public as a speaker, it was evident that the pains taken by Mr. Bannister had not been thrown away.

At an early period of the war, Lord Fife (then Mr. Duff) went to join the armies on the Continent, and proceeded afterwards to the Congress of Radstadt, where he remained during the greatest part of its sitting. On his return, he was, we believe, in 1798, one of the first to propose raising a regiment of Riflemen, and several officers and men were engaged by him in Germany for that purpose. The project, however, was not deemed expedient. The late Lord Melville approved of the idea; but several Fencible regiments having been raised about this time, Lord Fife's plan was finally laid aside. When his Lordship returned to England, Buonaparte was at sea with his expedition, and Lord Fife, in several communications with Mr. Dundas, afterwards Lord Melville, Secretary of State, decidedly told him, that there was no doubt that Egypt was his object. He also entered fully into all details concerning the affairs of the Congress of Radstadt, and explained the opinions he had formed of the certainty of war between the Austrians and French. During the time he was on the Continent, he passed through a part of the French army at Wetzlar, commanded by Hoche, who gave him permission to go by that route to Francfort. The republican General received him in the most civil manner, and they conversed freely on many interesting subjects.

Lord Fife soon after married Maria Caroline, the second daughter of the present Countess of Dysart. He was subsequently appointed to command the Banffshire volunteers, and on the breaking out of the war, after the peace of Amiens, the Inverness-shire regiment of Militia, which was stationed at Edinburgh, was placed under him by desire of the Earl of Moira, who honored Lord Fife with much of his confidence. His Lordship brought this regiment into a perfect state of discipline.

On the sudden and melancholy death of his accomplished lady, who was cut off in the bloom of youth and beauty, Lord Fife went again to the Continent. He was at Bremen with the English army; afterwards with the King of Sweden; and accompanied the Russian forces under General Tolstoy to Stettin, where they were reviewed by the King of Prussia. Here he was presented to the amiable Queen, who, in several conversations, listened with complacency to his opinion as to the part England was likely to take, relative to the attack on Hanover. Being afterwards in Berlin, he was soon convinced that Prussia had no alternative, but that of having the French nearer her territories, or of marching her troops to Hanover; and that war was inevitable at no distant period, even with France herself.

At Vienna, soon afterwards, he met his old friend Count Finkienstein, who convinced him that his ideas were correct, and, owing to a correspondence he had with Count Haugowitz, he was invited to go to the Prussian head-quarters. He wrote to England, offering his services to Mr. Fox and Lord Moira, and also his opinion concerning affairs on the Continent. It was not deemed advisable, however, by Mr. Adair, and his friends at Vienna, that he should go to the Prussian army till war was declared, that England might not be committed in any way, if that event did not take place; so little determined did most people think the Prussians were, to engage seriously in hostilities with the French. But soon after, the news of war, and at the same time of the total defeat of the Prussian army, was brought to Vienna.

On the first intelligence of the disturbances in Spain, Lord Fife embarked at Trieste for Malta and Gibraltar, being determined to join the Spaniards. Captain Campbell, of the Unitè, (now Admiral Sir P.) kindly gave him a passage part of the way, and recommended him to Captain Hollingworth, of the Minstrel, who disembarked him at Malta. Captain (now Admiral) Harvey kindly took him on board the Standard, intending to land him at Cadiz; but his convoy being driven off from that port, he took much pains to put his Lordship and Mr. Windham, late minister at Florence, on board a small vessel from Newfoundland, bound to Spain. Captain Harvey gave them provisions and their cots. Lord Fife never ceases to speak in terms of gratitude of the kindness he has invariably received from officers of the navy. On board the Caledonia, of Glasgow, they were obliged to make preparations to defend themselves from the threatened attack of a French privateer. The master gave the command of the guns to Lord Fife; but after coming very near during a whole night, and part of the next day, the enemy was alarmed at the signs of preparation on board the Caledonia, and Lord Fife himself steered the vessel through the Straits, and anchored close to Gibraltar.

Before his Lordship left Vienna, he was engaged to settle a dispute between General (now Prince) Wrede, and the Swedish minister, Count Deuben. He accompanied the Count, as his second, twice to Brannau, and passed over to the Bavarian territory; the parties separated after an exchange of shots, it being dark and snowy. The contest was to be decided next day on an island in the river, to prevent the annoyance of the crowd. But as the combatants were not personally known to each other, and the dispute was political, the seconds interfered, and prevented the affair from proceeding further. Such was the state of the Continent at the time, that Count Deuben, although he scarcely knew Lord Fife, applied to him as an Englishman, from a disinclination to commit any persons connected with the other powers, who were at peace with France and Bavaria.

Lord Fife mentions, in terms of praise, the conduct of the Austrian Cabinet during the ministry of Count Stadion. On this occasion, orders were given to open all the barriers, and ask no questions; and directions were issued to the Governor and officers at Brannau, to be useful in any way. Lord Fife was accompanied also by Dr. Griffith, who volunteered his services, and behaved with great coolness throughout. In parting with General Wrede after the affair was settled, he told Lord Fife, that although he had often fought on the side of the French, yet so soon as an opportunity occurred, he would be the first to declare and act against them. This speech was little heeded at the time; but it was completely verified after the battle of Leipsic, General Wrede, with the Bavarians, having gallantly attempted to oppose the remnant of the French army under Buonaparte.

His Lordship, on arriving at Cadiz, found his countryman and relation, old Consul Duff, in high glee at the success of the patriots. He had been there since the earthquake, beloved by all, having many years dedicated his time and fortune to all kinds of charity, with a munificence scarcely ever equalled. He applauded his relative for the desire he expressed to take a part in the contest. Enthusiasm was now, indeed, at the highest pitch, and cold would have been the heart that did not partake of it! Lord Fife assuredly is far from being of such a temperament. He endeavoured to make a progress in the language, and passed through several parts of Spain, where he was well received by the patriots. He also formed many acquaintances and friendships with some of the principal leaders of the day; and was on terms of the greatest intimacy with Jovellanos particularly, on the central Junta being established at Seville. Seeing the probability that this city would be attacked, he advised Jovellanos to propose sending off the most valuable things to Cadiz, and form a place of defence. Jovellanos requested him to put his ideas into writing, which being done, they gained his entire approbation. His Lordship's plan was to fortify and defend several points, and to train the citizens into bands of volunteers, under military officers. Hence the Junta desired the aid of some English officers from Gibraltar, that they might form, along with some Spanish officers, a plan for the general defence of the city.

Lord Fife, however, (then Lord Macduff,) perceiving that the prospect of an attack was apparently more remote, went, by the recommendation of the Junta, to the army of Cuesta, who, though not much attached to foreigners, shewed his Lordship the greatest attention, during the period he held the command. His Lordship remained with him till after the battle of Talavera; and Cuesta, in his letters to the Junta, recommended his name being placed first on the list of Colonels to be Brigadier-Generals; and circumstances evince that Lord Fife possessed more of his confidence than any one in the army, with the exception of General O'Donoghue. He accompanied him to visit Sir A. Wellesley's army, at Orapesa, and, on the retreat of the Spanish army, after the advance from Talavera to St. Olalla, (immediately before the battle,) his Lordship prevailed on Cuesta to recross the Alberche, and take up the post assigned to the Spaniards, in the position chosen with so much judgment by the English General.

Lord Fife, although not nominally in command of any particular portion of the troops, yet from the confidence reposed in him by Cuesta and the Spaniards, and the power allowed him to act for the best according to circumstances, had a considerable share in the transactions before, during, and after the battle of Talavera. Being with the advanced Spanish guard, at the bridge over the Alberche, on the 27th, he saw the whole French army pass to the left, and formed a tolerable estimate of its strength. On perceiving a large body in the act of passing the river, he rode off instantly to apprize Sir A. Wellesley, whose view, he thought, might be impeded by the wood between him and the stream. He accompanied that illustrious Commander in the retreat of the advanced guard to the position chosen, was on the hill when it was attacked, and next day had an opportunity of doing some service on the right of the British, previous to the attack of the French, by placing guns taken from the Spanish line on the battery in the centre. Being requested by Sir A. Campbell and Sir T. Myers to continue to direct them, he made several movements with the Spanish regiments near the battery on the right, by throwing them forwards *en potence*, to fire on the French, as they approached from the wood. He also brought up a Spanish regiment of cavalry to join in the advance after the repulse of the French, and on his way had the pleasure of giving a horse to Sir R. Donkin, whom he found on foot eagerly desirous to be mounted, that he might follow up his success with his brigade, which he had so gallantly commanded. Lord Fife brought up a gun to the hill, on the left of the position of the British, which, being ably directed by the Spanish officer, did much execution.

He continued on the hill, where Sir Arthur Wellesley had taken post, till the next morning, and was sent by him to Cuesta, to apply for provisions, which he partially succeeded in obtaining. Lord Fife having sent an officer, Roderigos, to watch the forces of Soult, Ney, &c. he returned after the battle, with the account that Soult had passed the Puerta de Baños, had dispersed the troops at Almaras, and was advancing in the rear of the combined army. Sir Arthur, after a communication with Cuesta, went to seek this new-coming army, taking with him a corps of Spaniards, under Bassecourt. Cuesta was left at Talavera; but very soon afterwards, a Spaniard bearing despatches from King Joseph and from Jourdan, came and delivered them to him, and he found that the force of Soult was strengthened by that of Ney, Kellerman, &c. Upon receiving this information, he considered it necessary to leave Talavera, with the greatest part of his army, in order to assist the British.

The Duke of Albuquerque, Sayes, and Lord Fife, were now left at Talavera, with the remainder of the Spanish troops, and the disabled; but being recalled, his Lordship went to the hospitals, and removing as many as was possible, and procuring some provisions and lint for the wounded, on joining the army near the bridge of Arzibispo, he found the Spaniards skirmishing with parties of the French; the Generals much dissatisfied with Cuesta for his behaviour, and even threatening to take the command from him. They then begged Lord Fife to hasten towards the British army, which had already crossed the Tagus, and lay before Sir A. Wellesley an account of the existing state of things. This Lord Fife refused to do, till they consented to abandon their plan against the General, and till Cuesta had promised on his part to cross the river, and place his army in comparative safety.

Lord Fife, accompanied by General O'Donoghue, proceeded to the head-quarters of Sir Arthur, who, after some communication, generously agreed to halt, and protect the Spaniards till they gained a position. Cuesta, soon displaced by the Junta, was succeeded by Egia, his second in command; and Sir Arthur, finding it necessary to retrograde still further, Lord Fife was again sent by the Spaniards to communicate with him. Sir Arthur kindly agreed to overlook much private dissatisfaction, and to halt at Badajos.

The Junta then suddenly ordered a part of the army of Estremadura to advance to La Mancha, join the forces there, and under a new leader (Ariasaga, who had gained some credit in Catalonia, under Blake) march forward, and by a rapid movement cross the Tagus, and pass on to Madrid. Lord Fife was requested to go also. He accordingly took leave of the great Commander of the British army—who had treated him with the utmost kindness—and of many other distinguished officers, with whom he had passed much of his time since the battle of Talavera—among whom we may mention Lord Hill, Sir G. Murray, the present Marquis of Londonderry, and Colonel Waters. With the two last, particularly, he had lived on terms of the greatest intimacy, which commenced in a singular manner, when they together headed the Spanish cavalry, on the advance through Talavera, and made several attacks on a corps of French infantry, on the great road between that town and the Alberche—Lord Fife had an opportunity of making some return to the noble Marquis, for the attentions he had shewn—by prevailing on him to join his small carriage, on the road to Badajos—when the Marquis was seriously attacked by the fever beginning then to rage on the banks of the Guadiana. Lord Fife himself was unwell, but he proceeded towards La Mancha, and was present at all the movements before the battle of Ocaña. He joined the Austrian Baron de Crossard in representing the danger to which the army was exposed in offering battle to the French, when, owing to the great rains and floods of the river, they might have had time to unite their forces; and his Lordship advised a different plan of operations, which would not have exposed the only great army now remaining, to probable destruction, for want of provisions. And, if a battle was persisted in, he recommended the taking up a strong position, to be fortified as much as possible. A very different course was, however, followed, and a position was taken at Ocaña, where the army was left to act as it best could.

In the beginning, and on the right, where the Spaniards had some chance of successfully defending themselves, they behaved nobly, and repulsed the French, killing and wounding a great many. On seeing the French on the point of piercing the centre, and turning the right flank, without any order to counteract such movements, Lord Fife proposed to the other Generals to take the command from Ariasaga, and give it to the second in command, as the last remedy. Unfortunately, although the proposal did not come too late, every one was fearful of so much responsibility. In the midst of these deliberations, the troops being attacked on all sides and dispersed, Lord Fife was recalled to Seville, to deliver his opinion on the state of the army; and was obliged, reluctantly, but firmly, to give a true account. Lord Dillon, Colonel Colborne, who was Secretary to Sir John Moore, and Sir P. Roche, were with the Spanish army at the battle of Ocaña.

The same kind of vacillating conduct lasted till the French actually passed the mountains, and advanced towards Andalusia. The Junta retired to Cadiz. Lord Fife assisted with the Revolutionary Junta, at Seville, on the departure of the Central. Several changes were then made in the command of the armies; the most important of which was, the order sent to the Duke of Albuquerque to march his division to Cadiz, which saved that city. Lord Fife was requested to go to Cadiz immediately, to do all that he could for its defence, and to inform the Governor, Vanegas, what had taken place at Seville. Remaining at Cadiz till after the siege was raised, and having given his opinion on the importance of re-occupying the Fort of Matagorda, he considered it right to go thither when it was attacked. He had often visited it before,—once in company with Generals Sayes and Lacy. General Sayes accompanied him on the day of the attack. The fort was most gallantly defended by Captain A. Maclaine, of the 94th regiment—an action not surpassed by any exploit of the same description during the war. Soult had prepared his batteries with forty pieces of cannon and mortars. Half the garrison were killed or wounded, including the chief officer of engineers, Major Le Fevre. Lord Fife accompanied General Stewart to the place where the embarkation of the troops, destined for the attack of the French position at the Trocadero, was to be attempted. But, on the day breaking, the enterprise was relinquished, from the difficulty of embarking all the troops, notwithstanding the exertions of Admiral Fleming, then a Spanish Commodore. Gen. Stewart then requested

Lord Fife to go to the Isla de Leon, to stop the attack there, to keep the enemy on the alert, and prevent them from sending reinforcements; and, although the attack was begun, his Lordship being the only officer mounted, was in time to prevent much loss to the troops. Being severely wounded by a cannon-shot, at Matagorda, he was for a long time unable to enter again upon active service. He, however, had many opportunities of forwarding the progress of the great cause.

He afterwards accompanied the expedition to Tarifa, to force the French lines near Chiclana, and volunteered to go and ascertain what had happened, as the wood prevented any thing being seen from the Spanish position. He was also employed by Lord Lynedoch to get the wounded transported; and afterwards to accompany and shew the British troops the place where the Spanish army was posted. He visited Ballasteros at Algesiras, and on the General moving on Malaga, had an opportunity of saving the hospital and all the stores. Assisted by Brigadier-Generals Sir J. Downie, Clarke, and Ferras, they defended, with a very small force, the open town of Algesiras, attacked by General Vilate, who advanced from the lines before Cadiz. Lord Fife received cordial assistance from General Campbell, the Governor of Gibraltar, and from Admiral Penrose. On the Duke of Wellington's visit to Cadiz, it was Lord Fife's good fortune to contribute his assistance towards the arrangement made by the Cortes, which gave his Grace the command of the provinces occupied by his army, and of those near them. He also introduced to his Grace a very patriotic member of the Cortes, (Mexia,) who had great influence with the deputies.

In 1811, Lord Fife succeeded to his title and estates, on the death of his father, and in 1813 found it necessary to revisit his native country. He had taken part in many affairs from the beginning of the war, and was several times wounded. He enjoyed much of the confidence of the Spaniards, who often employed him on affairs of importance—even to treat with the British. He encouraged the system of Guerilla warfare, gave to the leaders both money and arms, and did all in his power to alleviate the distresses of individuals from his own resources.

Early in this great contest, he formed a friendship with the afterwards much renowned General San Martin, and with other persons who went to South America; and had an opportunity of endeavouring to smooth the way for an adjustment of the differences between the mother country and her Colonies; but his good intentions were of little avail. Lord Fife lived, during the whole time he was at Cadiz, in habits of the greatest intimacy with Sir H. Wellesley, (now Lord Cowley,) and had many opportunities of knowing and appreciating the talents and conciliatory conduct of that able and meritorious person, than whom the British Government never employed a more fit representative of the Sovereign, or one who deserves more the thanks of the nation. Lord Fife's position among the Spaniards naturally led to little bickerings between him and his countrymen; but, during the whole time they were together at Cadiz, not the slightest cloud ever obscured the friendship which his Lordship and Sir H. Wellesley entertained towards each other. Lord Fife was to have succeeded General Imaz in the government of Badajos—but the town was taken before his departure; yet it ought to be mentioned, that his Lordship was one of the first Generals made by the Cortes in 1810.

On arriving in England, he was received by the late King (then Prince Regent) with the greatest condescension. From early life he was devoted to His Majesty; who, indeed, was the star that directed his course amid all the changes and vicissitudes of parties and politics. His Majesty was more than a brother, more than a father to him; and who may not well feel proud to have been noticed by such a Monarch? Once, and once only, did any symptoms of royal displeasure appear. Public duty compelled a seeming opposition to the Government, on one question; but on a proper occasion afterwards, His Majesty, acting as a King, and feeling as a man for a devoted subject, reinstated Lord Fife in his office in the household, and afterwards conferred upon him the dignity of a

British Peer, the Order of the Thistle, and the Grand Military Cross of Hanover. He attended His Majesty when at Edinburgh, and embarked with him at Fort Edgar, on his return. He had, on his arrival from Spain, been appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county of Banff, where his principal residence is situated. Besides his other honors, already mentioned, Lord Fife is a Knight of the Order of Ferdinand of Spain, and of the Sword of Sweden.

Lord Fife, on reaching his native country, found much to occupy his attention. During an absence of many years, his uncle had bequeathed away half his fortune from him; and the political influence of his family was much impaired. He diligently applied himself to overturn his uncle's extraordinary testament; the provisions of which were as injurious to his Lordship, as to the industry and prosperity of the counties where his domains are situated. He made great improvements on his estates, laid down many roads, built towns, opened harbours, planted considerable portions of land; and in times of distress rather gave to his tenants, than asked from them. He repaired the whole, and completely renovated some of the apartments of the venerable Abbey of Pluscardine, the situation of which is even more romantic than that of the often celebrated ruins of Melrose.

When Grand Master of Scotland, he laid the foundation of Waterloo Bridge and of the Bridewell, which form the entrance into Edinburgh from London; and also of the Public Rooms at Aberdeen, which he was chiefly instrumental in procuring to be begun and completed.

Lord Fife was, during eight years, Member of Parliament for the county of Banff, and latterly his brother, General Alexander Duff, was returned for the Banff and Elgin district of Burghs. He also took a part in the contest for the county of Caithness, to aid his friend, George Sinclair, at the last general election. At the same period, he risked the loss of his Peerage, by consenting, at the solicitation of his friends and supporters, to be put in nomination for the representation of Banffshire, on the appearance in the field of a candidate supported by opposite interests. His Lordship is the representative also of the ancient family of Skene, and possesses the estates.

Lord Fife has been a great patron of the dramatic art. He brought over and educated the celebrated Mercandottè, and was one of the Committee for the renovation of the Opera. When it was shut up by Waters, he recommended Mr. Harris to engage the celebrated Miss O'Neil. Latterly, he was one of the supporters of Mr. C. Kemble, in enabling him to open Covent Garden theatre, which has been attended with such happy results, in bringing forth to public admiration the transcendent talents of Miss F. Kemble. Lord Fife and the Countess of Jersey have the merit of having first introduced the French play into notice, in 1815.

We have thus very imperfectly gone through the active, adventurous, and gallant career of a nobleman, little known to our London world, except as a man of high fashion, a friend and favorite of Royalty,* and an ornament to the social circle, where his polished manners and intelligence are so justly prized. Even in Scotland, if we may judge from the meagre memoirs we have seen of him in the press of that country, he is more celebrated for the antiquity of his family, and his own princely munificence as a landlord and patriot, than for his brave conduct throughout the Peninsular war, his important services, and the privations and dangers which he encountered in that splendid cause. It is, therefore, with great pleasure, that we have enabled ourselves to render even this scanty tribute of justice to his Lordship's high deserts; and if our readers will consult our principal authorities, they will find that we are not speaking the language of compliment, when we bestow these eulogies upon the *Thane of Fife*. In the Edinburgh Annual Register, for 1808; Stockdale's, for 1809; and Southey's History of the War in Spain, especially his vivid description of the Battle of Ocaña; there is abundant evidence of the spirit and military skill of our noble countryman; and we have only to lament in several instances, that his prudent and sagacious advice was not followed by the Spanish Commanders. Had it been so, some defeats and disasters would, in all probability, have been spared. The parliamentary papers on Spain, 1810, and the correspondence between Lord Wellington and the Marquis of Wellesley, throw farther light upon this subject; but we can merely refer to these documents.

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* His Lordship has just been reappointed a Lord of the Bedchamber, by William the Fourth.

In General Miller's Memoirs, relative to South America, we also observe honorable mention, not only of Lord Fife's ardent exertions in Spain, to which he so intrepidly hastened from Vienna, in 1808; but of his friendly and essential aid to San Martin, who first raised the standard of independence in Peru. Both countries are indebted to him, and in neither will his exploits, his wounds, and his benefits be speedily forgotten.

We shall only add, that when his late Majesty delighted his Scottish subjects by a visit, the Earl of Fife was amogn the foremost of the proud and ancient nobility of that nation, to sustain the splendour of the event, and afford the Sovereign such a welcome as befitted him, them, and their enthusiastic and loyal country. His Lordship was, indeed, from his known personal favor with the King, conspicuous on this memorable occasion; and the result of his whole intercourse with his native land is, that he is one of the most beloved and popular noblemen which its limits can boast.

Sir Thoˢ Lawrence P.R.A. B. Holl.

SIR THOMAS LE BRETON,

Bailly of the Island of Jersey, President of the States, &c.

Thomas Le Breton

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1832.

SIR THOMAS LE BRETON,

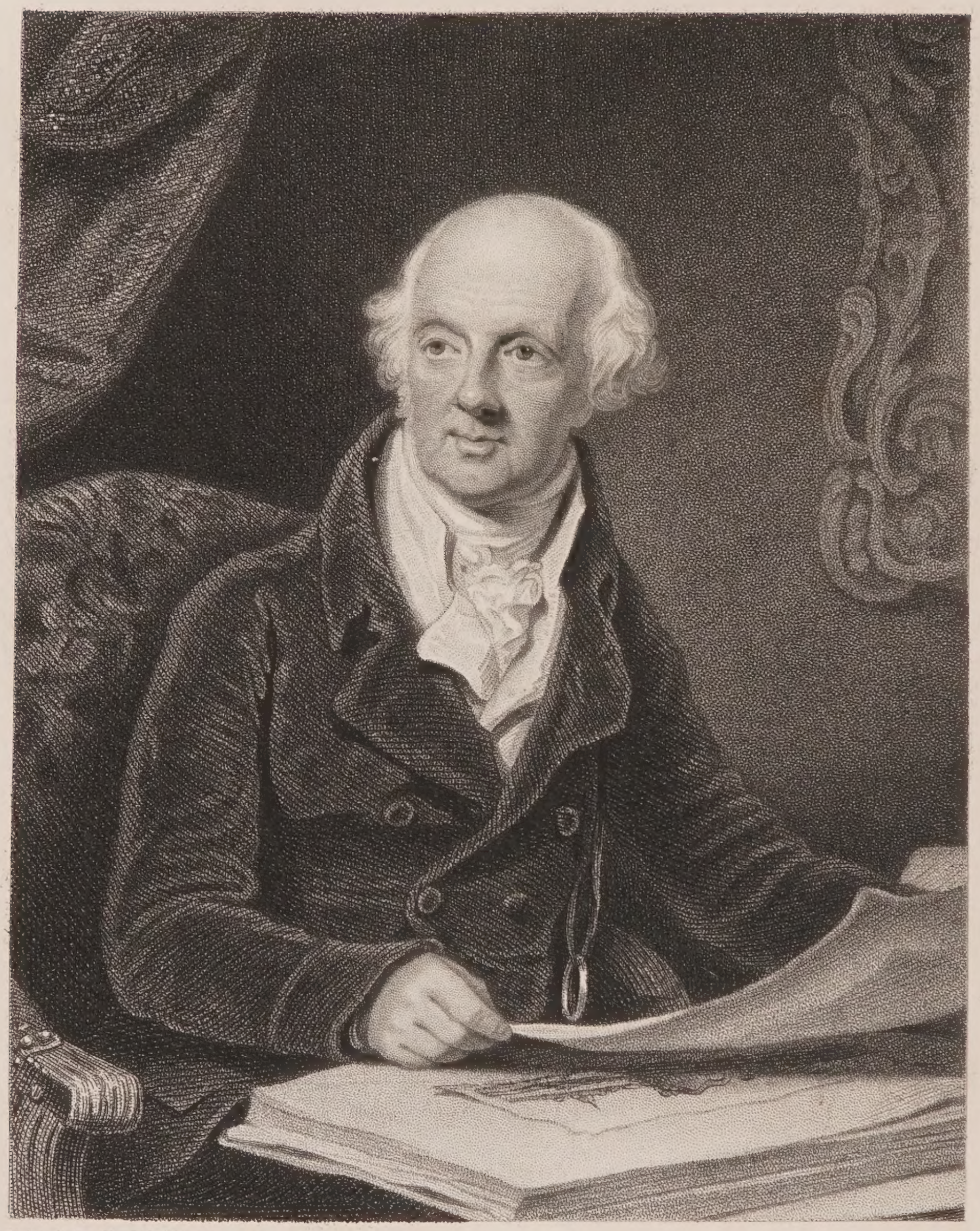
BAILLI OF THE ISLAND OF JERSEY, PRESIDENT OF THE STATES, ETC.

In seeking to make our publication acceptable to every quarter of the British dominions, widely spread as they are over the face of the earth, we have selected, for our third Plate in this Number, the Portrait of an eminent native of the island of Jersey, where he was born on the 29th of September, in the year 1763. Jersey, the largest and most southerly of the appendages to the English crown in the English Channel, and lying within a few miles of the coast of France, is inhabited by the descendants of French settlers, mixed with the blood of British subjects, who have gone thither in official or military capacities, or in mercantile pursuits; and the name of Le Breton indicates that Sir Thomas is thus descended, though the establishment of his family on the island, in the highest rank of its population, entitles him, in every sense of the word, to be considered as a Jersey man.

His father, Francis Le Breton, was Dean of the island, and a M.A.; his mother was Elizabeth Penrose, of Redruth, in the county of Cornwall. At the age of ten years he was sent to a grammar-school at Twyford, near Winchester, for his education; and afterwards placed on the foundation of Winchester College. Here he pursued his studies with considerable reputation, and in 1785 removed to Pembroke College, Oxford, of which he was admitted a Fellow. As a proof of his classical attainments, we have to state, that, whilst an Undergraduate, he carried off the University prize for the best composition in Latin verse, on the subject "*Pictura in Vitro.*" In due time he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and soon after returned to his native home, with the intention of following the profession of the law. Accordingly, in 1789, he proceeded to France, in order to improve himself in the language, and was admitted to the bar of the Royal Court of Jersey, in the year 1799. Here he practised till 1802, when he was promoted to the office of His Majesty's Attorney-General. His next step of distinction was that of being appointed Lieutenant Bailli under the late Lord Carteret, in 1816; and in 1826, on the demise of his Lordship, the King was pleased, by letters patent, to confer the office of Bailli upon Sir T. Le Breton, who had received the honor of Knighthood in April, 1825. Thus at the head of the civil judicature, as his father had been at the head of the ecclesiastical court, we may justly presume that great merit, worth, and ability, in the discharge of his various and important duties, had contributed to raise Sir Thomas Le Breton to so elevated a station among his fellow-citizens. Indeed, he has been several times deputed by the Assembly of the States, of which he is President, as their representative to His Majesty's government; and the flourishing condition of the island, trading to every quarter of the globe, is the best testimony that can be adduced of the value of his public services.

Sir Thomas has been twice married to ladies of the island: first to Miss Anne Hue, by whom he had three sons and one daughter; the eldest of whom is now His Majesty's Attorney-General at Jersey. This lady having died in 1798, Sir Thomas married, secondly, in November, 1799, Miss Margaret Hemery, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. She died in June, 1811, and her husband has since remained a widower.

His residence is situated about a mile from St. Helier, the principal town; and is a brick house built by himself, about twelve years ago, on an eminence which commands an extensive land and sea prospect. It is called 'Bagatelle,' a name given to the estate by the former proprietor, Admiral d'Auvergne, Duke of Bouillon; whose hospitalities have been more than continued by his much respected successor.



Painted by H. Edridge. Engraved by J. Jenkins.

SIR ABRAHAM HUME, BART. F.R.S._S.A.

Abraham Hume

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1832.

SIR ABRAHAM HUME, BART.

F.R.S. AND S.A.

THE history of human life, and the variety of character which it exhibits, form one of the most interesting subjects that offers itself to our contemplation. While we highly approve that praiseworthy ambition, which prompts men to seek power for the purpose of exerting it for the welfare of the state and the benefit of the community—while we admire the valour and heroism which secure the independence, and lead to the glory, of our country—let us not overlook those milder virtues, which, by the diffusion of kindness and benevolence, smooth many of the rugged paths of life, and at the same time fulfil those holy injunctions which were given to us as the guide of our conduct towards each other.

A taste for the fine arts is frequently associated with the amiable qualities to which reference has been made, and from all we know of the estimable subject of this Memoir, we believe also, that he (as well as his friend, the late Sir George Beaumont) fully exemplifies the truth of this observation.

Sir Abraham Hume was born on the 3d day of March, 1749; he was educated at Eton, and was the cotemporary of Mr. Fox and General Fitzpatrick. Among his intimate friends he has had to enumerate Mr. Burke and Sir Joshua Reynolds. The latter, as a testimony of his esteem, bequeathed to him one of the finest pictures in his collection of the works of ancient painters.

This venerable patron of the arts was also well acquainted with almost all the members of the Royal Academy, when they first associated. The late President, in finished and elegant language, at one of the annual dinners, complimented him as one of the earliest, most constant, and valued friends of that Institution.

Various plans have been formed at different times, for the promotion of the fine arts in this country, and particularly for that of painting; Sir Abraham Hume has always been the advocate of those which appeared best calculated to encourage the spirit of the British artist, and to reward the exertion of his talents; and his purse has been always open to the benevolent establishments, which have been so liberally and so beneficially formed, for the comfort and support of those who, in pursuit of the study of the arts, have not been so fortunate as their fellow-labourers, and have fallen into difficulty or distress.

Out of the different projects which have been suggested for the encouragement of Painting, has arisen the establishment which is called the British Institution. It has supplied that which was represented, at the time of its formation, as one of the great desiderata among artists, in furnishing them with an easy mode of disposing of their works, without subjecting them to any expense; and while its annual exhibitions have gratified the public taste, it has presented to the artist for his study, the finest specimens of the ancient masters which were to be found in this country.

SIR ABRAHAM HUME, BART.

Some years ago, under the auspices of the late King, that establishment did justice to the merits of Sir Joshua Reynolds, by collecting and exhibiting to the public, some of the ablest productions of his pencil; under the same auspicious influence, it now confers the same well-deserved honor, on the works of the late President of the Royal Academy. Sir Abraham Hume was one of the earliest promoters of this Institution.

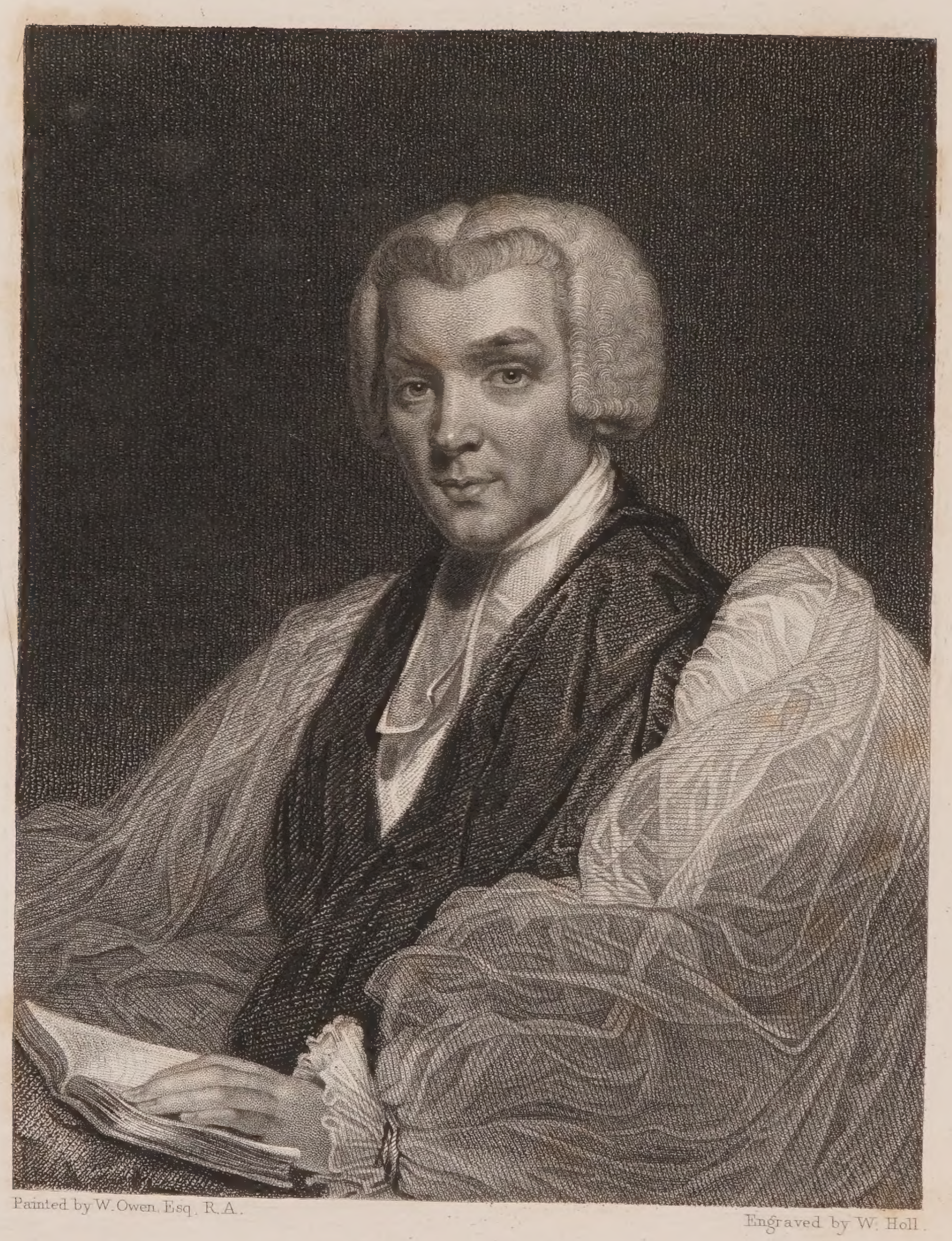
He printed lately some notices respecting the life and works of Titian, in which he pointed out some of the most brilliant examples of his pencil, together with some interesting anecdotes of his life; this work, which was distributed among his friends, has been much appreciated by the lovers of the fine arts.

He has also applied himself very much to the study of mineralogy, and has formed a very extensive collection of specimens, with a view of elucidating that interesting branch of science.

Sir Abraham has had two daughters; the eldest married to Lord Farnborough, and the youngest to Earl Brownlow. Lady Farnborough has exhibited many works of art at the Royal Academy, and at the British Institution. We believe every lover of the arts has viewed them with unfeigned satisfaction. Lately, however, we have not been gratified with a sight of the delightful efforts of her pencil; but we shall be happy to find that her talent does not lie dormant—being ardent admirers of the productions of elegance and taste.

The benevolent subject of this short Memoir is not only a lover and promoter of the arts, but has also himself produced some pictures, which place him high in the class of amateur artists.

The present Sir Abraham Hume is the eldest son of the late Sir A. Hume, created a Baronet in 1769. He is descended on the female side from Sir Robert Stuart, of Allanbank, Baronet, which family trace their lineal descent from Sir John Stuart, of Bonkill, great-grandfather to Robert, the second King of Scotland—from whom the families of Bute and Galloway are also descended, according to the records in the Herald's office at Edinburgh.



Painted by W. Owen, Esq. R.A. Engraved by W. Holl.

THE RIGHT HONBLE WILLIAM HOWLEY, D.D. LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

W. Cantuar

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THE MOST REVEREND AND RIGHT HONORABLE

WILLIAM HOWLEY, D.D.

LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

It must be a high gratification in a work like this, to adorn its page with a Portrait of the Head of the National Church—a man not more honored by his station than by his virtues. Such is Archbishop Howley, the Primate and Metropolitan of England, who was consecrated Bishop of London in the year 1813, and, after discharging that vitally important trust with dignity and piety, during fifteen years, was translated to the See of Canterbury in 1828.

Dr. William Howley, his Grace's father, was also in the Church, and Prebendary of Winchester Cathedral, at the time of his son's birth, about 1763. Living so near to a celebrated school, the child, as might be anticipated, was placed in due season under the care of its master, the learned Dr. Joseph Warton, for his education. At this time Mr. Addington, afterwards Lord Sidmouth and Premier, Mr. Burgess, now the distinguished Bishop of Salisbury, Mr. Huntingford, the Bishop of Hereford, and other youths, whom learning and abilities have since raised to great eminence in the various walks of life which our free country presents to the choice of the emulous and deserving, were fellow-pupils with William Howley; and, from the fruits, we may safely affirm that good seed was sown in fertile soils, and that the plants were faithfully and skilfully cultivated. Such proofs, indeed, of the efficacy of judicious tuition, afford the grand argument in favour of public schools, and reconcile the mind to the inconveniences and evils with which they, like all other good, are attended; and we forget the abuses of fagging, corrupting associations, and other mischiefs, in the spectacle of early industry and study, mature wisdom and learning, and final excellence and just distinction.

Having pursued his scholastic course amid such estimable companionship, Mr. Howley proceeded to New College, Oxford, as a scholar on the Wykeham foundation, and devoted himself with unremitting assiduity to the further acquisition of knowledge. He took his degrees in Arts, and obtained a Fellowship; after which he became principal Tutor, and stood so pre-eminent among his compeers, that, on the entrance at College of the Prince of Orange, the present King of the Netherlands, the charge of his Highness's education was confided to him. That, in the fulfilment of this duty, he acquitted himself so as to merit the utmost approbation of his own King and Government, and also of the family of his Pupil, is, however grateful to his own feelings, by no means the best reward of his labours. This reward he must have reaped in the after-life of his Pupil; and in the consciousness, at this moment, of the benefit he has conferred on a large portion of mankind, by contributing to fix such principles in his breast, as have made him one of the ablest and most respected monarchs in the world. For the character of the King of the Netherlands, in every private and public relation, surrounded, as thrones are, with doubts and difficulties, is of a nature to reflect much credit upon his preceptor; and, in doing justice to the teacher, it is a pleasant task to render homage, at the same time, to the taught, and to trace, in their mutual dispositions, the admirable effects of virtuous nurture, diffusing benefits on all within the sphere of its action for long succeeding years.

When Dr. Randolph was raised to the bishopric of Oxford, Mr. Howley was appointed Regius Professor of Divinity, and Canon of Christ Church; and, consequently, proceeded to his degree of Doctor of Divinity. Nearly ten years were passed in this station, every year adding fame and esteem to the reputation he enjoyed before; so that, on the death of the Bishop of London, 1813, he was at once elevated to the prelacy, with the concurrent approval of high and low, and furnished the first example since the Revolution, of the Metropolitan See being filled by any other mode than by the translation of a mitre. The preceding Regius Professor had ascended to this elevation through Oxford and Bangor; while his successor in the College chair, was called at one step from that chair, and his Canonry, to the first bishopric in the kingdom. And if worth, consistency, purity of conduct, firmness of principle, and genuine liberality, could constitute a claim, never did any individual bring forward a clearer title than Dr. Howley, to this, and to the still higher office in the sacred profession which he has since attained. Mild and temperate in his Christian career, he has also mingled inflexible integrity and steadiness of purpose with his candid allowances towards those who differed from him: neither zealot nor bigot, he has been both ardent and unalterable in his support of religion, and in his attachment to that Church in whose tenets he was brought up; and, among all the venerable names upon the bench, there is not one which has acquired greater lustre in these days of change and trouble, than that of Dr. Howley, whose calm and dignified adherence to what his conscience dictated, exacted the applause even of those whose views were most opposite and hostile.

We cannot better illustrate this character of moderation and liberality, combined with immovable firmness, than by recalling his Grace's conduct on the discussion of the measures for removing the Roman Catholic disabilities, than which nothing could more severely try the mind of a Protestant Bishop. On presenting petitions from his diocese, he took the opportunity to refute a false report which had been industriously circulated, of his having changed his opinions, and gone over to the other side; and stated, that, on the contrary, he still believed the admission of Roman Catholics to parliament, and political power, to be incompatible with the security of our Protestant Church. On the Duke of Wellington's motion for the second reading of this memorable bill, (April 2,) the Archbishop replied to his speech, and entered at large into the subject of his objections. He observed, that since he had sat in the House, he had uniformly voted against farther concessions to the Roman Catholics. This he had always done with pain, and never more so than now; but he had a paramount duty to perform to the Church of which he was a member—to the Protestant faith, which that Church was meant to support—and to the Constitution, which he apprehended would be injured, by granting the political power thus required at their hands. He could not believe that the principles of the Roman Catholics had undergone any change; and the abuse of spiritual authority for the attainment of temporal purposes, had not ceased to characterize its priesthood. Upon this view he argued, that Romish Ministers, Ambassadors, &c. could never truly perform the duties entrusted to them as the responsible advisers, or representatives, of a Protestant King; and he earnestly entreated the legislature to provide for the pastoral and enlightened instruction of the people, especially of Ireland, to deliver them from the spiritual tyranny under which they suffered, and were misled. Upon the whole, he decidedly opposed the bill upon its general principle, as he had always opposed measures of the same nature,—he hoped, without intemperance or passion, without uncharitable feelings, and from a conscientious regard to those interests which had been confided to his charge. His Grace moved the usual amendment, which, according to parliamentary form, throws out a proposition, namely, that the bill be read a second time this day six months. On the future stages of the measure, his Grace also participated in the debates, but only spoke upon slight minor points, which produced no alteration in the law as finally carried by ministers.

Upon questions so vitally affecting the Church at the head of which he stood, the best opportunity was afforded of appreciating, as we have done, the truly great and amiable character of the Protestant dignitary, alike remote from bigotry and lukewarmness, upholding his own faith, but respecting the opinions of others. His Grace also took part in the proposed bill for facilitating anatomical studies, and in this also performed simply a Christian and pastoral duty, by endeavouring to provide for the decent sepulture of the human remains after they had been subjected to scientific inquisition.

But we must go a little back in our chronology, to notice the consecration of Dr. Howley, as Bishop of London, it having been attended by some circumstances of peculiar interest. Her Majesty never having witnessed this sacred ceremony, had expressed a wish to be present; and, accordingly, accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Mary, proceeded to Lambeth Palace, on the forenoon of the appointed day, (October 4th, 1813,) where Dr. Sutton, then Archbishop of Canterbury, received the royal party, and conducted them to the Chapel appropriated to the service. The Bishop elect, in his Doctor's robes, took his seat the last on the right of the Altar; the morning service was read by a Chaplain; the Bishop of Gloucester read the Epistle, and the Bishop of Oxford the Gospel; and the Sermon was preached by Dr. Goddard, late Master of Winchester, who took a general view of the Established Church from the period of the Reformation, and dwelt upon the divine institution and expediency of the episcopal order. The Archbishop of Canterbury read the Communion at the Altar; and the Registrar having also read the Prince Regent's mandate for the consecration, Dr. Howley retired, and put on the rochet. He was afterwards led up to the Altar by the Bishops of Gloucester and Oxford; and the Archbishop, having gone through the remaining preparatory ceremonies, he again withdrew, and was invested with the full episcopal robes. In these he was a second time taken to the Altar, where, after answering the usual questions, the whole concluded by the imposition of hands by the Archbishop and the other Bishops who were present.—The Sacrament was administered to all, and the solemnity was at an end.

Having completed the primary visitation of his diocese, the Bishop of London, in 1814, at the request of his clergy, published the charge he had delivered to them; which drew forth a pamphlet, in reply, from the pen of the Reverend Mr. Thomas Belsham, the Unitarian minister. Mr. Belsham in this "Letter" accused his Lordship of inculcating slavish doctrines, more allied to Popery than to the free and inquiring spirit of Protestantism: but the Bishop rested upon his original language, which spoke of the Socinians as "loving to question rather than learn," and approaching "the oracles of divine truth, without that humble docility, that prostration of the understanding and will, which are indispensable to proficiency in Christian instruction;" and no farther controversy was provoked on the occasion. Even when, at a future period, his Lordship gave a second Charge to the press, he passed *sub silentio* all the attacks that had been made upon him by the sectarians to whom his declared principles were obnoxious.

In January, 1816, when a day was appointed for a general national thanksgiving, and the eagles captured from the enemy, at Waterloo, were deposited in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, the Bishop of London preached an excellent sermon from the following apposite text:—"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright," *Psalm* xx. 7, 8.

Among the congregation was H. R. Highness the Duke of York, whose last moments, as we shall have to state, were, a few years after, smoothed and consoled by the religious attentions of the prelate whom he this day heard on a topic so honorable to his earthly fame, as the illustrious friend of the soldiers by whose victories these trophies, and the peace of the world, had been achieved.

Previous to this sad event, however, his Lordship was distinguished by being named (May, 1818) one of the Queen's Counsel, to act during the continuance of His Majesty's malady, and the Regency of his Son.

In Sir Herbert Taylor's pathetic narrative of the last illness and death of the Duke of York, mention is made of H. R. Highness's exemplary intercourse with the pious Bishop. When, though not alarmed, he expressed himself conscious of the serious nature of his indisposition, he desired that his Lordship might be requested to come to him—in quiet, and so as not to excite observation, as he wished the service to be simply that of the Communion, and not as attendance upon a sick person. The Bishop received this communication with great emotion, and, at the appointed time, had a private interview with the Royal sufferer, of the most satisfactory kind; after which he administered the sacrament. His Royal Highness declared to Sir Herbert Taylor that he had been "much pleased with the Bishop's mild and encouraging discourse." This was on the 29th of August; and from that date his Lordship had, at all times, free admission to the Prince, and prepared his mind for the great change which took place on the 5th of January following, by such conversation as alike befitted the Minister of the gospel and the dying Christian. On the 28th of December, the Bishop administered the sacrament for the last time; and was extremely affected, particularly when pronouncing the concluding blessing.

Having thus far advanced in a blameless, eminently useful, moral, and religious life, a pattern to all men, and not less to all of his own sacred profession, we are prepared to find this shining light elevated still higher in the Church of England; and no one could more justly deserve to be placed at its head. Accordingly, on the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in July, 1828, the virtuous Bishop of London was selected to succeed him; and he has ever since reflected a calm and steady lustre from that lofty sphere. The warm friend and supporter of every good design for the instruction of the ignorant, the propagation of the gospel, the purity of the Church, and the universal diffusion of charity, knowledge, and truth, his Grace is indeed an ornament to the important station which Providence has directed him to fill.

His pale and benevolent countenance does all that physiognomy could require, in proof of its authenticity; for it is of the most benign, intellectual, and apostolic character. There is a slight resemblance to the portraits of the famous Lawrence Sterne; but refined and elevated, so as to remove every impression, except that there is some similitude in the features.

His Grace has published nothing but the Charges which we have mentioned, and a Consecration Sermon, preached in 1802, on the elevation of Dr. Huntingford to the bishopric of Gloucester. This was done in obedience to the command of his predecessor, Dr. Moore, then Archbishop of Canterbury, who, as well as Dr. Sutton, has been distinguished for his liberal improvements of Lambeth Palace, and his care of the invaluable library which it contains. In this course, we rejoice to add, their example is followed by the present Archbishop; who not only continues the architectural alterations, but bestows due regard upon the literary treasures which have been accumulating here during many ages.

In conclusion, the Church, whose history these records are so well calculated to illustrate, never had cause to be more entirely satisfied with the Prelate, on whose judgment and piety its concerns, both temporal and spiritual, must so essentially rely.

Painted by Sir W^{m} Beechey. R.A.

Engraved by P. W. Tomkins.

SIR THOMAS PICTON, G.C.B.

Th Picton.

FISHER, SON & C^{o} LONDON, 1830.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL

SIR THOMAS PICTON,

KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE BATH,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

THE life and death of this gallant soldier possess an uncommon degree of interest; for the one was filled with strange adventure, and the other was most glorious to himself and to his country. If he sought for a brilliant ending to his career, he assuredly found it where all the noble deeds of a long and splendid war were consummated, and he fell in the achievement of a triumph that fitly crowned the series of immortal victories to which his talent and bravery had so prominently contributed. As no man can be esteemed fortunate till his death, it was not till his fate was sealed that Picton, like our great naval hero Nelson, could be ranked with those whose final hour arrived happily without shadow or darkness, and reflected a bright lustre on all the past.

SIR THOMAS PICTON was descended from a good and ancient family in South Wales, and of long standing in the county of Pembroke. From early years he displayed his ample endowment with that stout material of which the warrior is made; was a bold boy, and an undaunted youth. His own wishes, and the judgment of his relations, pointed out the profession of arms, and in 1771 he obtained a pair of colours in the Twelfth Regiment of Foot. His first foreign station was Gibraltar, where he served under the command of General Sir Robert Boyd, and, afterwards, of General Lord Heathfield, till 1778. Thence he continued his career with credit to himself and advantage to his regiments, particularly to the 75th, in which he obtained his Captain's commission. A mutiny having unfortunately broken out near the close of the war in 1783, it was quelled by his dexterity and courage; for which he was honored with the royal approbation, communicated to him by Field-Marshal Conway, at that period the Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces.

With this distinction, his military progress was suspended for a while. Peace was concluded, and, his regiment being reduced, he was among the officers placed in retirement. He accordingly returned to his native county, and resided in the midst of his family and friends, with little intermission, till 1794, when the state of affairs again summoned our forces to the field. Captain Picton embarked for the West Indies, and in every employment which called for his zealous efforts evinced the same ardour and skill which had marked his preceding conduct. No wonder that his spirit and talents should recommend him to notice and promotion. Sir John Vaughan, the Commander-in-Chief, appreciating his merit, advanced him to a Majority in the 68th Regiment, and made him his Aid-de-Camp: his next step was to be Deputy Quarter-Master-General, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; and in this laborious department he acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of his superiors, every day rising in reputation and honor. No man, indeed, could be more esteemed, either by those above him, his equals, or those below: he devoted his energies to the able discharge of his arduous duties, and it may with truth be stated, that his companions in arms, of every rank, were deeply benefited by his exertions.

Thus, when the illustrious Sir Ralph Abercrombie reached the West Indies to assume the command in 1796, so indefatigable, brave, and judicious an officer was sure of being associated in a prominent manner with that intelligent leader, in whatever expeditions he might deem it expedient to undertake. Lieutenant-Colonel Picton sailed with him on the reduction of St. Lucia; and so entirely did the General rely upon his capacity and conduct, that he publicly notified, "that all orders coming through Lieutenant-Colonel Picton should be considered as the orders of the Commander-in-Chief."

Confidence could no where be more safely or better bestowed. The island was taken, and Abercrombie, whose favour was the sure test of desert, recommended his friend to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the 68th Regiment. Tobago was reduced, in conjunction with Sir Samuel Hood in the command of the naval portion of the armament, and in 1797 Trinidad also surrendered to the British expedition, and Colonel Picton was appointed Governor of this politically important conquest.

In this station, an event took place which imparted a strong colour to all the future life of our intrepid soldier. It is true, that during five years he discharged the functions of his office of Governor and Captain-General in such a manner as to procure for him the thanks of the different Commanders-in-Chief in the West Indies, and the approbation of the Government at home; but he also provoked a bitter enmity in the hearts of a few individuals, and an opportunity occurred which put it in their power to gratify their hatred to the utmost.

The day of popular excitement and outcry is now long past, and posterity will do justice to the memory of a brave man, who, by a series of vindictive proceedings, and the employment of every artifice which could warp the judgment or inflame the passions, was nearly made a martyr to a righteous, but unfounded feeling; and who not only suffered severely for a season, but had a cloud thrown over him, from which, perhaps, even all his glorious achievements did not entirely relieve him:—we allude to the well-known charge of cruelty brought against the late Governor of Trinidad, (after the government was put in commission,) for the infliction of tortures on Louisa Calderon, a free Spanish girl, under fourteen years of age. By this accusation, the scene of his celebrity was changed into the theatre of his temporary disgrace; and he who had so honorably distinguished himself in the actions by which St. Lucia, Tobago, Trinidad, and other possessions of the enemy, were wrested from them, was brought to trial upon an indictment, carried on and supported by every means calculated to inflame public resentment, and bring down ruin on the head of the accused. The periodical press teemed with exaggerated statements of demoniacal inhumanity; pamphlets of the same malicious nature were actively circulated; pictures and caricatures were added to augment the hostile impression; and the name of Picton was held up to as rancorous a degree of odium as that of Governor Wall, who had shortly before expiated an offence of the same kind as that imputed to him, by an ignominious death. On the 18th of February, 1804, he was compelled to give bail to the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, himself to the amount of £1000, and two sureties to the amount of £500 each, to answer the indictment so charged upon him, and so virulently sustained.

Placed upon the rack, the law's delays kept him there till 1806, when the trial came on. Baron Garrow, then attorney-general, conducted the cause for the nominal prosecutor, the Crown; and was not lukewarm in the performance. Let it be observed, that wherever it is possible to bring home even the want of consideration for human suffering, it must be esteemed honorable to a country, where a public functionary acts as Garrow acted on this occasion; for if it was a failing, it "lean'd to virtue's side," and though it might readily be shown now, that it oppressed the supposed oppressor, yet the evils that must flow from an opposite course would be infinitely more shocking and intolerable. There can be no question, that Colonel Picton was the victim of a routine assent given to the Spanish authorities, whereupon they acted in a way, the legality of which was doubtful, and the inhumanity of which, with our notions and practices of criminal jurisprudence, could not be vindicated for a moment. It appeared, that in 1801, the Governor had signed an order laid before him by the Alcalde, (the Spanish magistrate,) for applying *the question* to the unfortunate girl Calderon, a degraded female, it is true, but still a female, and, in the eyes of civilized men, entitled to compassion and mercy. It was to extort the discovery of a theft, in which her paramour was implicated; and the result was, that on being picketed, (a military punishment, where the offender is suspended by one arm, with a foot resting on a cone,) she confessed who the criminal was, and justice was satisfied. But an English jury felt, that even justice might be too dearly purchased by such means—means more likely to extort fraud and falsehood, than equity and truth—and they found Colonel Picton guilty. He was guilty of the dangerous inadvertency of signing the application made to him; but he was a military officer, governing a country ruled by foreign institutes, of which he was utterly ignorant, and he erred in sanctioning, what the native authorities demanded as according with the law of the island,—a grievous fault, and grievously he answered it; for in all the other actions of his life his kindness of disposition and general humanity were conspicuous. What he endured, therefore, in consequence of this lapse must ever be a lesson to those in power: there is no excuse for the want of due reflection, and the merest mistake in judgment is liable to a retribution, against which the sense of deserving, in every other respect, is but a poor and defenceless shield. Yet the case was not suffered to terminate so outrageously in opposition to sound reasoning, and a candid appreciation of the real fact. On the ensuing term a new trial was granted, and legal proceedings continued till 1808. The subject of the existence and interpretation of Spanish laws in Trinidad, was again debated at great length; and at the last, it seems as if substantial justice was done, for Lieutenant-Colonel Picton was acquitted of moral guilt; and yet the interests of humanity were asserted by the special verdict, which found, that he "had not acted maliciously, except so far as the law inferred from the facts."

Thus released from the burden which had pressed upon him for years, Colonel, now General, Picton was speedily employed in the service of his country, where his efficiency never betrayed him into misconstruction. He commanded a brigade at the siege of Flushing, in 1809, and on its capture was appointed Governor; a clear proof that, however much he had been the object of persecution and misrepresentation, he fully retained the good opinion of those best able to form a right opinion of his conduct. And at Flushing he showed how well he merited their regard; for, under circumstances of peculiar difficulty, his prudence and humane administration were so effective, as to entitle him to the equal gratitude of all the parties within the sphere of his influence.

From Flushing he returned to England an invalid, but the stirring war on the Peninsula soon recalled him to arms; and, in 1810, he was one of the most valuable and active generals upon the staff of the British force. The command of the third division was entrusted to him by the Marquis of Wellington; and it speedily struck out a bright train of fame for itself by the daring and success of its exploits, in every service which called for its activity, and every battle that was fought. In a short time it was distinguished by the name of the Fighting Division; for wherever danger faced, or glory beckoned, Picton was sure to lead his gallant troops, and nobly did they acquit themselves in fields of carnage and laurel. The philosophical observer will probably see in this a consequence of the painful position into which our valiant commander had been thrown; his natural valour was stimulated by the remembrance of an insulted character, and a desperate resolution was engrafted on an original stock of inherent intrepidity and fearlessness. After a while, too, we believe, General Picton conceived that the Commander-in-Chief was chary of his merited praise; and thus another stimulant was superadded to his enthusiastic resolution to conquer the applause and admiration of the world. This aim he accomplished; the name of an abler soldier, or a more dashing leader, stands not on the splendid roll of England's heroes.

A Major-General in 1810-11, he was greatly distinguished at the battle of Busaco, where the Portuguese troops under his command emulated the steadiness and discipline of British veterans; the whole brunt of the engagement was borne by his division, which being completely victorious, drove the enemy down the hill, with immense slaughter. He was soon after promoted to the Colonelcy of the 77th regiment of foot, and ranked a Lieutenant-General. At Fuentes d'Honor, General Picton fully sustained his high reputation; and at the storming of Badajos, in 1812, increased it. Upon this sanguinary and trying occasion, he was personally and individually remarkable—the General became the mere combatant, and conducted the escalade by which the castle of Badajos was carried. To his skill and bravery, the gaining possession of this important fortress may be attributed; and when, at a later period in the war, the enemy's centre, strongly posted on the heights of Vittoria, was attacked and routed, the fortune of that glorious action also belonged in a great measure to Picton, and his determined followers. At Ciudad Rodrigo, too, the conduct of General Picton claimed the particular notice of the Commander-in-Chief; whose despatches so frequently recorded the distinguished services of his gallant compeer.

During a short period of the struggle, ill-health obliged the General to return to England; when H. R. H. the Prince Regent conferred upon him the Order of the Bath. He was also elected to represent the borough of Pembroke in parliament, and had the gratification of receiving, in his place, the thanks of the House of Commons, for the splendid services he had performed in the Peninsula. Upon this occasion, the Speaker (Mr. Abbot, afterwards Lord Colchester) delivered one of those forcible, elegant, and admirable addresses, which produced extraordinary sympathy at the time, and which deserve to be handed down to future times, as models of national feeling and eloquence.

Sir Thomas Picton rejoined the army, with renovated health, in due season to lead on the 3d and 4th divisions at St. Jean de Luz, (January, 1814,) where he attacked and defeated the enemy. At Orthes he also covered himself with honor; and, indeed, from the moment of entering the territory of France, till the battle of Toulouse concluded this dazzling page of military glory, no language can express too high an idea of the conduct and valour of this admired Commander. Ever foremost in the heat of the fray, ever cool in the midst of peril, and idolized by the brave men whom he had led to so many splendid victories, he was in reality a Briton in the field, as we delight to imagine that illustrious character.

From the occupation of Bourdeaux he repaired home, and again, in person, received the thanks of the House of Commons for his eminent services. When not engaged in parliamentary duties, he resided at his seat in Caermarthenshire, occupied in the improvement of his estate, the cultivation of friendship with his neighbours, the common amelioration of the surrounding country, and the restoration of his health, impaired by the fatigue and exhaustion of long, laborious, and trying military exertion.

On the institution of the new order of Knighthood in January, 1815, the name of Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton appeared high on the list, as a Grand Cross of the first order; and it might have been supposed, that the period had now come, when more than forty years of signal activity in various parts of the earth, and of great anxiety in responsible situations, would have their reward in dignified tranquillity and universal respect. But there was still a leaf wanting to complete the immortal crown; and that bloody yet glorious leaf was gathered on a soldier's death-bed,—the red field of Waterloo.

In the command of the fifth division of the army, General Picton was, as usual, the first at the post of honor and of danger. In taking up their ground, the allies were fiercely attacked by the enemy in vastly superior numbers at Quatre Bras: the Duke of Brunswick was slain, but, after a very severe action, the French were repulsed, and our troops remained masters of the hardly disputed spot, where a presage was given of the more extensive slaughter of the ensuing day. That day was the memorable epoch of Waterloo; and the despatch of its hero tells us, that his companion in many a terrible conflict, fell while "gloriously leading his division to a charge with bayonets, in which one of the most serious attacks made by the enemy on our position was defeated."—In another account, afterwards published by the Spanish General Alava, he says, "General Picton was unfortunately killed at the moment the enemy, appalled by the attitude of his division, fired and then fled."—Thus he died as he had lived, victorious: a death to be envied by every brother in arms. He had been wounded in the preceding action by a musket ball, but concealed it from every one except his own servant, and it was not discovered till he was stripped after his lamented fall; when the wound had assumed a serious aspect for want of surgical assistance. Need we add, that he was deeply lamented by the army in general? His loss was deplored by all ranks to whom his firm and determined conduct in every exigency had endeared him, and his memory is cherished as one of the bravest of the brave.

Nor was he less esteemed in his more private character. In his native land the affection for him was—is—unbounded; and Wales has, indeed, cause to be proud of her son. A monument to him was voted by Parliament, to be erected in St. Paul's Cathedral, on moving which, Mr. Williams Wynne stated, that he (General Picton) anticipating his fall, had expressed a hope that his country would pay this tribute to his memory.

A yet more popular monument has been erected to him by the voice, and from the voluntary contributions, of his fellow-citizens, near Caermarthen. It consists of a stupendous column erected on an eminence, and finely seen for many miles around. The foundation was laid with great pomp and ceremony in August, 1825, by Lady Dynevor, assisted by Sir Christopher Cole; and the work has since been completed in a style worthy of the people by whom it was raised, and of their heroic compatriot to whose honor it is a tribute. It is viewed with great veneration by the inhabitants of South Wales; and it would be difficult to find a name dearer to the hearts of every class, than that which enshrines the memory of a Picton.

Such is the outline of a life and death of much vicissitude and final glory. Yet a few illustrative anecdotes remain to be told, and we gather them from the productions of persons intimately acquainted with the deceased. In the Peninsula, while at the head of his "fighting division," General Picton was known by the striking *soubriquet* of "the right hand of Wellington." When that great commander was sent to

Flanders on the re-appearance of Napoleon, our government, it is stated, offered a division to General Picton, but, from some feeling of dissatisfaction to which we have already slightly alluded, he declined the charge, unless the Duke should himself require his presence. This request was made, and he hurried off to his destination. On the 11th of June, he left London; and in seven days he terminated his honorable career. At Canterbury, when passing onward, he partook of a public dinner given at the Fountain Inn, in compliment to him;—that day fortnight his corpse rested in the same room, and in the custody of a guard of honor. His remains were landed at Deal, June 25th, and when conveyed to the shore, all the naval and military were drawn up to receive them, and the ships in the Downs fired minute guns. On the 3d of July, they were deposited in the family vault, in the burial ground of St. George's, Hanover Square; the funeral being attended by his brother, the Rev. Edward Picton, a number of officers and gentlemen of distinction, and a vast concourse of people. On the coffin was inscribed, "Lieut. Gen. Sir Thomas Picton, aged 57, G.C.B. who at the great and decisive Battle of Waterloo, in Flanders, on the 18th of June, 1815, between the French army, commanded by Napoleon Buonaparte, and the English army, commanded by his Grace the Duke of Wellington, fell gloriously," &c. and quoting the words of the despatch to which we have already given place.

It appears that Sir Thomas entertained a presentiment of his fate. He made his will before his departure to embark, and observed to a friend, "When you hear of my death, you will hear of a bloody day;" a prophetic warning, dreadfully verified.

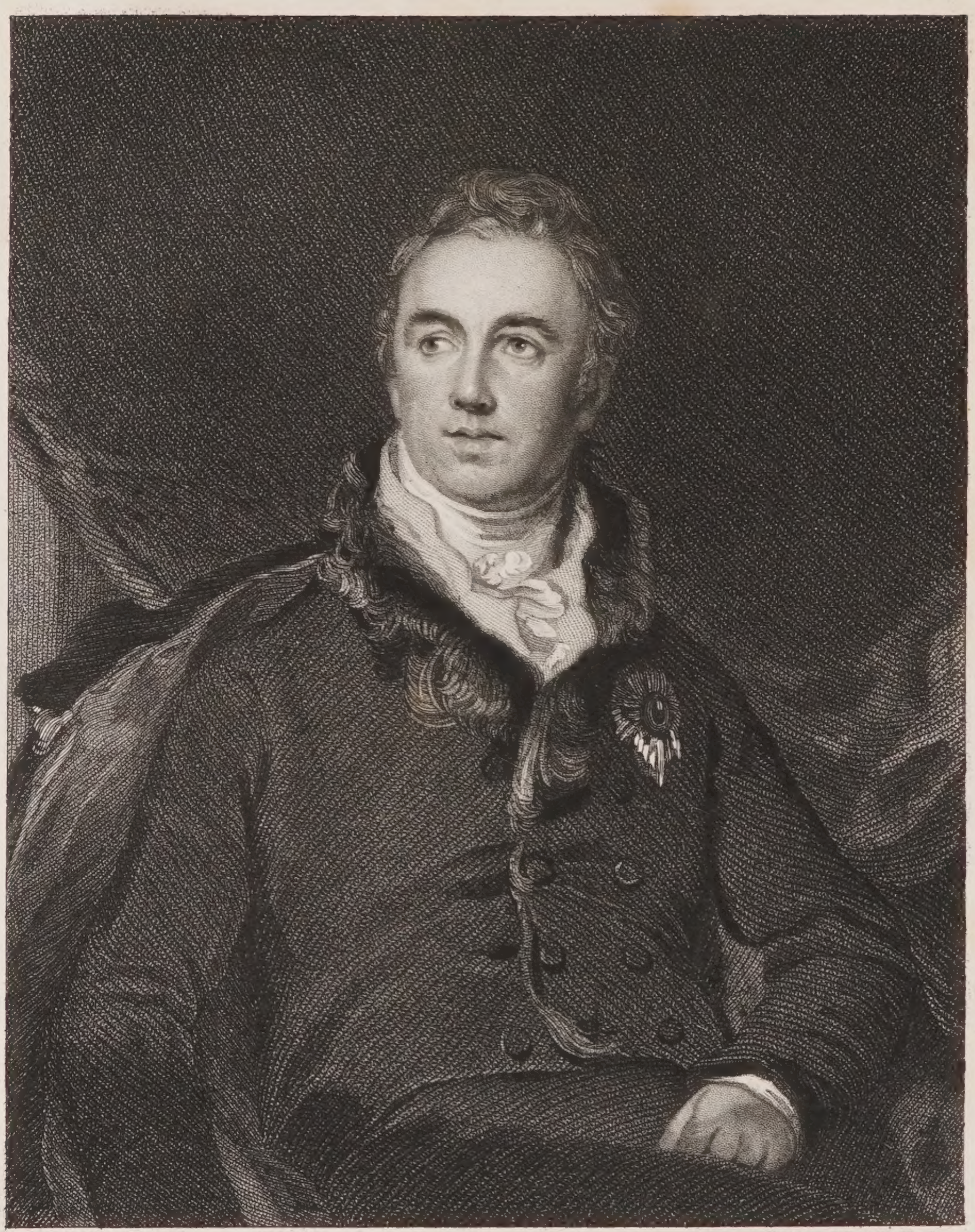
Conceiving that his past services were entitled to a peerage, which had not been conferred, Sir Thomas Picton was now determined to put his claim beyond the possibility of denial, or to die in the campaign in which he unhappily perished. Why he was refused this distinction, which was granted to several of his associates, certainly not more celebrated for their deeds than himself, we cannot explain: it preyed upon his spirits, and was the source of great mortification. The death of his uncle had enabled him to purchase an estate, wherewith to maintain the dignity; and he felt it as a stigma, that it was withheld from him, whom the minister, Lord Bathurst, declared to be possessed of " stern and manly virtue." Others too had contributed to efface from his mind the feeling of suffering and wrong, which the prosecution for Louisa Calderon had implanted. When worn out by the expenses of that tardy process, which vexed several of the best years of his life, the Duke of Queensbury liberally proffered £10,000 to aid him in the establishment of his innocency; and the inhabitants of Trinidad voted him £5,000 at a public meeting, as a testimony to that character which had been so cruelly aspersed. The former sum he gratefully declined; the latter he was induced to accept on the ground of its bestowal; but a few months after, when a calamitous fire destroyed the capital of the island, and a subscription was opened for the relief of the sufferers, the General eagerly seized the opportunity to appropriate the amount of the subscription to that object. Thus the same sum applied a healing balm to his wounded character from those best capable of justly appreciating it; and, in twice blessed charity, flowed back to comfort the afflicted among the mass whence it originally sprung. It was an ennobling incident: could a peerage be more?

In the fulfilment of his parliamentary trust, General Picton performed an upright and independent part: the part of a loyal patriot. Yet in this, and perhaps in all his other intercourse with the influential powers, it may be inferred, that his inflexibility was not a pioneer, likely to open the path to rank. In the turmoil of sieges and of battles, that virtue might, and did lead to victory and fame; but with courts and cabinets, its stubborn nature is not so well calculated to procure stars and titles. Our soldier was no flatterer; he knew not how to compromise a principle,—not even to disguise an opinion. He was, says a contemporary writer, " the very soul of honor;" the pupil of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, he never disgraced his general and his friend. He discharged with strictness all the social and relative duties; and, in the midst of a severe persecution, never lost the equanimity of temper which pious integrity alone can impart.

In a military memoir it deserves to be mentioned, that the daring exploit in which he received his mortal wound, was that of leading a charge of infantry against a solid square of the enemy's cavalry,—an enterprise scarcely before attempted, except by himself, but one which he had not unfrequently executed with success during the Peninsular campaigns.

Of money he was ever regardless, and was most generous to the members of his family. In private life he was kind, benevolent, and charitable; in public, straight forward, upright, and uncompromising in principle. As an officer, we have seen that he possessed knowledge, fortitude, skill, and talents of a very superior order; and altogether, now that a perfect judgment may be formed of him in every relation into which his destiny cast him, we may most truly say, that he was a hero in his profession, an ornament to the civil sphere, and an honor to his country.

Our Portrait is engraved from a painting by Sir William Beechey, and rendered more interesting by being executed only a fortnight before his death. So striking a memorial will, we trust, be most acceptable to his brother soldiers and friends in many a hard-fought field; and we rely on its being hardly less dear to his fellow-citizens in Wales, and to Englishmen who admire valour and worth in every quarter of the United Kingdom.



Painted by Sir Thos Lawrence. P.R.A.

Engraved by G. Parker.

ROBERT SAUNDERS-DUNDAS, F.R.S. K.T. VISCOUNT MELVILLE,

Melville

FISHER, SON, & Co LONDON, 1830.

ROBERT SAUNDERS DUNDAS,

F.R.S. K.T.

VISCOUNT MELVILLE,

AND BARON DUNEIRA,

FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY.

THE son of a celebrated sire, whose name will figure conspicuously in the annals of England during one of the most portentous epochs of her history, and himself for many years entrusted with ministerial functions of the most important order in the Government, Lord Melville possesses eminent claims to a niche in our national temple. He was born in Scotland, on the 14th of March, 1771, and succeeded to the family honors on the death of his father, Henry the first Viscount, (created in 1802,) on the 29th of May, 1811; previously to which, however, he held several appointments of political consequence, and was early initiated in official business.

The immediate predecessor of Henry Dundas, was the Lord President of the Scottish Court of Session, Lord Arniston; a collateral branch of the family of Dundas of Fingask, from which the Barons of Dundas, of Aske, in the County of York, are also descended. Henry married Elizabeth, daughter of David Rennie, Esq. of Melville Castle, and by her had the present peer, and three daughters, married severally to the Lord Chief Baron Dundas; to Henry Drummond, Esq., secondly, to James Strange, Esq.; and to George Lord Abercromby.

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Robert Dundas passed his early years in his native country, and finished his education at Cambridge; from which, his father being then high in power, as the friend and coadjutor of Mr. Pitt, he was immediately brought forward into public life. His first ministerial office was that of Chief Secretary for Ireland; the initiative of so many of our distinguished statesmen. He was next made President of the India Board, which he left in March, 1812, for the Admiralty; where he succeeded the Right Hon. Charles Yorke, as First Lord, and remained till May, 1827, when he went out with the Wellington party of the cabinet, and H.R.H. the Duke of Clarence was appointed Lord High Admiral. The lamented death of Mr. Canning having paved the way to another change, and His Grace the Duke of Wellington being charged with the arduous duties of Premier, Lord Melville was again nominated President of the India Board; and again he quitted that chair for the Admiralty, on the resignation of the Duke of Clarence, in Sept. 1829.

Such is the outline of the noble Lord's official situations; connected with which, we shall briefly trace the leading features of his parliamentary career. In 1810, his Lordship, then Mr. Dundas, spoke both on the Regency bill and on the affairs of India; taking the views of these great questions which were entertained by the party with which he concurred. In 1812, having become a member of the Upper House, Lord Melville gave his first vote as a peer, in favour of the Roman Catholics, on the Marquis of Wellesley's motion for granting certain privileges to the professors of that religion. His Lordship also presented a petition from Ayr against the East India Company's monopoly. On the ensuing year, his Lordship delivered his sentiments on this question, then brought under the attention ot parliament, and likely to re-occupy much more of its labours in the sessions about to commence; and also spoke in defence of the Naval administration with reference to the American war. From his situation as First Lord of the Admiralty, indeed, the defence of the measures taken by that board devolved, *ex officio*, upon his Lordship; and during many years he acquitted himself in a very able and efficient manner, in repelling the severe charges frequently brought against himself and his ministerial colleagues. His speeches are marked by a manly simplicity and straight-forwardness; and his facts and arguments on them appear luminous without superfluous comment, and yet with sufficient illustration added to clear logical reasoning. In 1815, Lord Melville, though he opposed, at that moment, the consideration of the Catholic claims, expressed himself favourable to emancipation. Next year, his Lordship took an active share in the abolition of the property tax, particularly with reference to Scotland, a country ever indebted to him for his patriotic care and consideration of its interests.

This period was signalized by the splendid chastisement of the audacious pirates of Algiers; an event alike glorious to England, and honorable to her Navy and its administration. In 1817, it was his Lordship's pleasant duty to move a vote of thanks to Lord Exmouth, and the officers and seamen who had performed that noble service; and in the same year he brought in a useful bill, to assimilate the oaths taken by naval and military officers. In 1818, his Lordship spoke on the Alien bill, and on the grants of pensions to the widows of officers; the latter being an official question, which called particularly for his opinion. In the ensuing year, he justified the course taken by Government for the suppression of the slave trade; and delivered a very effective speech against the bill for the total abolition of climbing boys in the sweeping of chimneys. His Lordship's principal objection was founded upon the mode on which the majority of chimneys were constructed, which rendered the application of machinery impracticable. In 1819-20, he spoke in reply to Lord Darnley, on the state of the Navy; and, in 1821, in favour of the second reading of the Roman Catholic Emancipation Bill. His Lordship also supported the bill for the disfranchisement of the rotten borough of Grampound. Consistently with his honest views of what was most for the advantage of the country, his Lordship, having taken what is called the popular side of these two points, was not so inclined upon the motion for a reduction of the number of the Lords of Admiralty from seven to five, in 1822, against which he contended, as being objectionable even on the score of economy. Without going into the debate, we may merely notice, that this defence of the establishment did not seem to make many proselytes; but, while one side is ever endeavouring to reform or level existing institutions, it must be expected that the other side will adhere more tenaciously to ancient forms and usages, in the aggregate, than it would do to individual cases, if they could be detached from consequences, and separately brought under its investigation. Party has no insulated questions; and, whether it be for good or evil, for the acquisition or retention of power, those who struggle in the arena well know that every concession increases the weakness on one hand, and induces more hardy attacks on the other. In politics, every man advances as if he were besieging a fortified town; and the more he uncovers his adversary, the more likely are his approaches to be crowned with success, and the coveted position to be made his own.

On general topics of great concernment, both to the northern portion of the island, and to its glorious bulwark, the Navy, Lord Melville was, in the years 1824 and 1825, a prominent speaker. In the former year, he delivered his sentiments in opposition to the Scots' Jury bill; and, certainly, experience has since shown the force of many of his objections. In the latter year, his Lordship introduced a bill for amending the law relative to the oaths taken on naturalization, and on the reversal of attainder; and he replied to Lord Darnley in a very able speech on the state and efficiency of the Navy; which he vindicated from the imputations and assertions of a Mr. Burridge, who appeared to have been disappointed in some speculation respecting the cure of dry rot, and to have turned his resentment on the Admiralty, as the cause of his failure. In 1826, his Lordship spoke in support of that branch of our naval establishment styled the preventive service; and, on the question of the local payment of Bank notes, strenuously, and, fortunately for that country, successfully resisted any alteration of the system, as far as Scotland was concerned.

This is no place for a dissertation on cash payments, paper money, or political economy, but it may not be too much to assume, that Scotland owes much of its comparative commercial ease and prosperity, at the present moment, to the stand made for her small-note currency on this occasion.

The year 1827 was an important era in the history of the English Cabinet. Lord Melville, though agreeing with Mr. Canning on the grand question of Roman Catholic disabilities, and attached to that illustrious character by kindly recollections of the part which he took in 1805, on the impeachment of his Lordship's father; was nevertheless induced to withdraw from the administration then forming, and join the party which withheld its support from Mr. Canning as prime minister. Afterwards, when this line of conduct was arraigned, his Lordship, in his place in Parliament, vindicated his own course, and denied having entered into a coalition with the Duke of Wellington. When the vital measure just referred to, came to be discussed under the sanction of His Grace's ministry, Lord Melville, as might have been anticipated from his previous career, gave it his cordial vote, sustained by his reasons for so doing in a speech, which was replied to by Lord Eldon. His Lordship has also taken his share in most questions of practical utility, such as the Anatomy Bill, the Poor Laws, &c. &c.; and especially as such propositions affected the interests of Scotland and its inhabitants.

The people of Scotland, indeed, have long felt and acknowledged the influence of the family of Dundas in their national and individual concerns. The immense political power and government patronage possessed by the late, and in great measure by the present Lord, have been employed in a way to ensure the gratitude of their native land, as well as largely to promote the common weal of the empire. The prodigious improvement of Scotland in wealth and productiveness, the general concord and quiet which pervades that country, and the diffusion of intelligence and refinement, can never be considered in separation from the name of Dundas. So deeply interested in all the ministerial agency, which the nature, or at least the practice of our constitution renders necessary for those in office, it must be expected that both father and son should be exposed to party attacks and charges; but while our Indian possessions remain a monument to the unrivalled glory of the one, we have nearer home no less imperishable monuments of the sterling wisdom and abilities of the other.

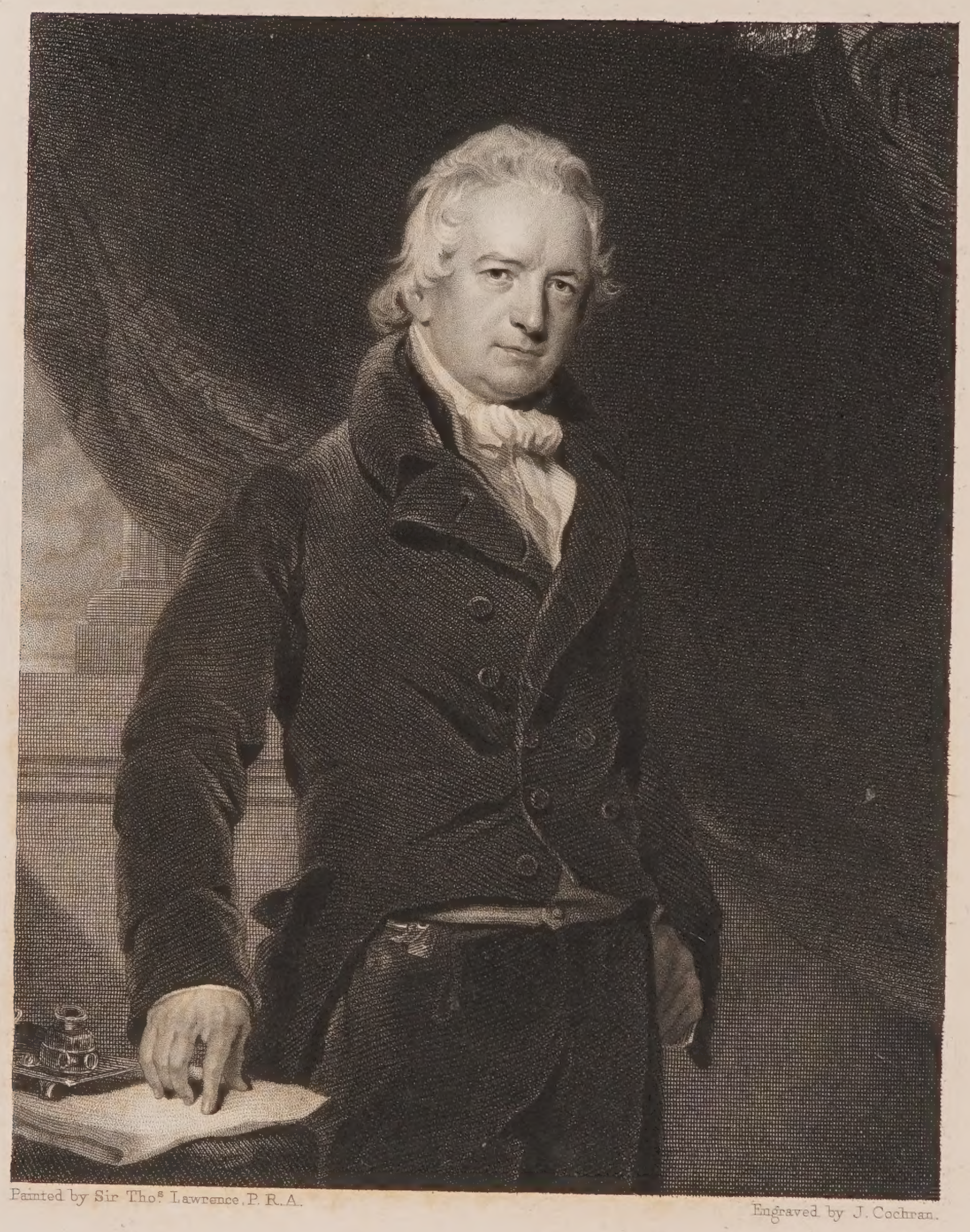
The magnificent alterations in Sheerness and Woolwich Dockyards are to be ascribed to Lord Melville; and though the Breakwater at Plymouth was begun under the auspices of his predecessor, Mr. Yorke, in 1811, the spirit and constancy with which that great work has been continued, form a triumphant record in the biography of the noble Lord who succeeded him at the Admiralty, and continued to be the head of its councils for fifteen years. The energy with which this design has been carried on is entitled to our warmest praise; and whether we look at the magnitude, the nature, or the importance of the undertaking, we are equally prompted to express our admiration of those by whom it has been cherished and upheld. The port of Plymouth, where the British Navy, in all its terrible force, sheltering itself from the elemental strife, or recruiting its expended strength, was exposed to dangers which wrecked the stoutest ships, and gave to a watery grave multitudes of the boldest hearts that ever spread Britain's glories over the universe—is now, protected and secure. The bridled ocean seems to dash in vain against the mighty bulwark, that far outrivals the most stupendous of those remains which tell us of Roman enterprise and grandeur, when Romans were the masters of the world. And should ever the time unhappily arrive, when England shall be, to future ages, what Rome has for centuries been; no prouder memorial of her splendour will survive than the Breakwater at Plymouth, that wonderful union of art and power, which does say, like Canute to the waves, thou shalt flow no farther; but, unlike the monarch, issues a mandate the turbulent waves are forced to obey.

In his political life Lord Melville has exhibited many of the characteristics which are attributed to his countrymen: he is cool, stedfast, and persevering. Having adopted his course, he proceeds in it with as much undeviating firmness, as he had exercised dispassionate judgment in forming his opinion; and thus, as in the instances we have particularized, he generally succeeds in the issue; and his purposes are fulfilled by steady conduct rather than by rapid and striking efforts. As a member of the administration, and dispensing its favours, he has been as free from charges of partiality as it is perhaps possible for an individual so placed to be:—his honesty and honor are unsullied, not a breath having ever whispered an insinuation against either. At the most trying period of his existence, when every feeling that could agitate his breast was torn to the utmost by the persecution of his noble father, his behaviour was distinguished by traits of virtue and filial affection, which reflected the highest lustre upon his character. So admirable, indeed, was his line of conduct upon this occasion, that it extorted the applause of those whose bitterest efforts were aimed at the ruin of his family; and not only in private, but in public, the very enemies who assailed the parent, bore testimony to the virtues of the son.

Coolness, good-temper, steadiness, and prudence, in all his political transactions, have ever been distinguishing characteristics of his Lordship's career; and these qualities have been most advantageously displayed in relation to the ministerial affairs of the north; where, though perhaps the same preponderating influence which was obtained and exercised by the powerful mind of his father no longer exists, there still remains as much of it as is consistent with the state of public feeling, and the well-being of the community at large. When a national monument was proposed to commemorate, with gratitude, the sense entertained by the Scottish people, of the services which his father had rendered them through a long and active life, Lord Melville took a warm filial interest in the design; which has since been executed in a manner to do honor to the motives of the subscribers, and adorn the metropolis of the country with a noble work of art.

Lord Melville in 1796 married Miss Saunders, (upon which occasion he assumed the additional surname of Saunders,) daughter of Huck Saunders, Esq. M.D., and grand-niece and co-heiress of Admiral Sir Charles Saunders, K.B.—by whom he has four sons and two daughters; one of the former, Henry, the eldest, sat in the last House of Commons for Rochester, and another, Richard Saunders, the second, has risen to the rank of a Captain in the Royal Navy. His Lordship is Lord Privy Seal in Scotland, and Lieutenant-Colonel of the Mid-Lothian Cavalry, besides holding other honorable appointments.

Our Portrait of him was taken some years ago; since which his appearance has become more stout; though he always possessed a well-proportioned and muscular frame, a look of benevolence and kindness, a sedate air, and a gentlemanlike deportment.



Painted by Sir Thos Lawrence, P.R.A. Engraved by J. Cochran.

JOHN ABERNETHY, ESQ. F.R.S.

J. Abernethy

FISHER, SON & Co LONDON, 1830.

JOHN ABERNETHY, ESQ.

F.R.S., ETC. ETC.

In the course of this publication, it is the purpose of the Proprietors occasionally to introduce Portraits of celebrated ornaments of the medical profession; the first example of which is now presented to their subscribers. Royalty, the political state, the church, the aristocracy, the army and navy, the law, literature and science, have already contributed to vary its pages; and it would be a great oversight and omission, were it not also to comprehend a class of men distinguished not only for important attainments and knowledge in their own most difficult art, but many of them for singular abilities in other pursuits, calculated to advance the improvement, the welfare, and the happiness of their species.

In entering upon this new branch, however, we may take occasion to say a few words on the nature and relations of this undertaking, generally; first, with regard to the engraved Portraits, and, secondly, with regard to the biographical Memoirs.

In engraving portraits from ancient pictures, besides the advantage of picturesque costume, the artist possesses the still greater advantage of (if we may be allowed the phrase) unique identity. His subject is only known to the world by the picture; and, therefore, a skilful transcript of this to the copper or steel satisfies every judgment, and just applause is the reward of the talent displayed. But, in our case, the position is very different. We have, with few exceptions, merely given the plain and grave dresses of the present time; the black or blue coat, the uniform citizen-looking fashion, in every article which is worn alike by persons of every rank. But we have yet to contend against a far more trying impression. The individuals represented in our work are either still living, or but recently lost to society. Numbers of those who look upon our likenesses of them, are well acquainted with their features; and then comes the criticism upon their resemblance or otherwise. Now, it should be observed and felt, that the painter's art can achieve nothing beyond a resemblance at one distinct period, when the party is perhaps twenty, thirty, forty, fifty, or sixty years of age, or even farther declined into the vale of years. Yet the spectator, looking on a youthful portrait of a man he has only seen at a later date, whose early traits are obliterated by gradual change; or, *vice versa*, contemplating the aged and venerable countenance of one whom he recollects but in the freshness and gaiety of the prime of manhood, is extremely apt to pronounce, "It is not like!!"—It is like at a certain point: it cannot be like at every period; for even in actual existence, we daily hear the salutation, "You are so altered that I hardly knew," or "did not know you." It is too much to expect a picture from nature to be more comprehensive and universal than nature herself; yet such is the criterion too frequently applied, without reflection, to contemporary portraiture.

Again, in producing the biographical sketches, there are a multitude of very serious obstacles to be surmounted. In memoirs of historical personages, the author has to encounter the labour of consulting historical documents, and from these he draws his statement of accredited facts, which, whether true or false, are, as they must be, equally well received by the public. The public, indeed, has no other standard by which to measure them, than that employed by the biographer; and where he has done his duty, the best informed are bound to give him their warmest suffrage. Thus, for instance, Lodge's Portraits, illustrated by patient research, an acute and impartial judgment, a masterly style, and the highest powers of discrimination, have deservedly become popular far and wide, not alone in consequence of the excellence of the engravings, but also of the sterling value of the records by which they are accompanied. Our task cannot hope for such unanimous approval, let us bestow whatever pains we may. Our sources of information are more difficult of approach; or, when drained, the result is more obvious to question. We would say, frankly, that there is no kind of authorship so beset with impediments as contemporaneous biography. Many volumes have often to be consulted for a single date; which, obtained upon the highest authorities, the chance is, that as they have copied one from the other through a long line of error, it may in the end be wrong. The same remark applies to circumstances; and we have been astonished to find, on seeking, as we invariably do where it is possible, undoubted confirmation of our data, that all who have preceded us have altogether mistaken or misrepresented even things apparently of the utmost notoriety.

This applies to cases where there are former publications to refer to as guides; but, in the majority of instances, the whole substance of our sketches is to be procured from oral testimony, and we need hardly dilate upon the patient industry and delicacy required, in order to steer a clear and faithful course through the conflicting elements thus brought into action. The very matters of which we, after mature examination and comparison, are most certain, are liable to be cavilled at by others who have received different accounts of the same story:—things either unknown to us, or unrelated, are considered to stamp our notice with imperfection; and, in short, the difference of opinions among our judges, precludes the possibility of our obtaining, as in by-gone lives, the general assent and approbation of our readers.

Yet we do not put forth this statement to disarm the justice of our friends; it is a simple explanation, for the purpose of setting our design and its execution upon a right footing. All we ask is a fair consideration of the points we have indicated (to which many might be added,) and we have no fear of the conclusion. For, even the least prominent of these papers have cost a large portion of diligent inquiry; and there are very few of them which have not undergone that revisal which warrants us in pledging our credit for their accuracy, both personal and historical.

But some may deem this manifesto misplaced, as the prelude to a Memoir; and, truly, we can hardly reconcile it to ourselves, that it should (of all men) have ventured itself as an introduction to a sketch of JOHN ABERNETHY. Sure we are, that he would be the last person on earth to listen to such a prologue, whether relevant or irrelevant; for this worthy and estimable gentleman holds nothing in so much abhorrence as prolixity of speech. Many a patient has he cut off in the midst of that circumlocution with which invalids are so apt to dwell upon their symptoms and afflictions; and such impertinence as ours would soon have been quashed in no very ceremonious manner. And, as there is no need of precise regularity in a biography so begun, we shall take the liberty of telling a characteristic anecdote or two of this description, to enliven our narrative.

Mr. T——, a young gentleman with a broken limb, which refused to heal long after the fracture, went to consult Mr. Abernethy; and, as usual, was entering into all the details of his complaint, when he was thus stopped almost *in limine*—"Pray, Sir, do you come here to talk, or to hear me? If you want my advice, it is so and so—I wish you good morning."

A scene of greater length, and still greater interest and entertainment, took place between our eminent surgeon and the famous John Philpot Curran. Mr. Curran, it seems, being personally unknown to him, had visited Mr. Abernethy several times, without having had an opportunity of fully explaining (as he thought) the nature of his malady: at last, determined to have a hearing, when interrupted in his story, he fixed his dark bright eye on the "doctor," and said—"Mr. Abernethy, I have been here on eight different days, and I have paid you eight different guineas; but you have never yet listened to the symptoms of my complaint. I am resolved, Sir, not to leave this room till you satisfy me by doing so." Struck by his manner, Mr. Abernethy threw himself back in his chair, and assuming the posture of a most indefatigable listener, exclaimed, in a tone of half surprise, half humour,—"Oh, very well, Sir, I am ready to hear you out. Go on, give me the whole—your birth, parentage, and education. I wait your pleasure; go on." Upon which, Curran, not a whit disconcerted, gravely began—"My name is John Philpot Curran. My parents were poor, but I believe honest people, of the province of Munster, where also I was born, being a native of Newmarket, county of Cork, in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty. My father being employed to collect the rents of a Protestant gentleman, of small fortune, in that neighbourhood, obtained my entrance into one of the Protestant Free-schools, where I obtained the first rudiments of my education. I was next enabled to enter Trinity College, Dublin, in the humble sphere of a *sizer*," — — and so he continued for several minutes, giving his astonished hearer a true, but irresistibly laughable account of his "birth, parentage, and education," as desired, till he came to his illness and sufferings, the detail of which was not again interrupted. It is hardly necessary to add, that Mr. Abernethy's attention to his gifted patient was, from that hour to the close of his life, assiduous, unremitting, and devoted.

Mr. Abernethy, who is now some years past his grand climacteric, was born, we believe, in Scotland,* about 1763-4. Soon after his birth, it appears, his parents came to reside in London, where he was put to a day-school in Lothbury, and there he imbibed the elementary principles of grammatical and classical instruction. In due time, he was bound apprentice to the late Mr. Charles Blick, under whose auspices he pursued his studies with great advantage: the skill and high name of the master, together with the opportunities for improvement offered by his extensive practice, and his connexion with Saint Bartholomew's Hospital, affording every stimulus and means of acquiring experience to the pupil. At this period of his life our subject seems to have indulged in some of those eccentricities which have marked the remainder of his more mature and serious career. He used to attend, it is stated, the lectures delivered by Messrs. Hewson and Falconer, of Craven-street, Strand, in the garb of a groom, (which had not in those days become at all, as it has in many cases since, the habit of a gentleman,) and consequently received from his companions the not very complimentary by-name of "The Hostler." But in spite of his humour, his affectation of singular dress, and his oddities in conversation and behaviour, young Abernethy was steady in making himself practically conversant with his profession; and, without being conspicuous for uncommon attainments either as they regarded that profession or general information, or science, his talents were such as to excite expectations, which have not been disappointed. It is curious to remark, upon the three learned branches which occupy so numerous a body of clever men, that the eccentrics belonging to the law are usually made so in their later years, by long application to business abstracting them from general intelligence; that divinity, with the exception of a few college recluses who do not mix with the world, produces a small number of the genus; and that medicine exhibits a far larger proportion than any other class, not only in old age, but in middle and juvenile life,—from the peculiar physician of the populous city, to the queer apothecary of the village and hamlet. This may, perhaps, be attributed to the education of medical men; their early association with ideas repugnant to other men, and with things in their nature repulsive to humanity. These inspire a habit of thinking, and a sense of feeling, which operate upon the mind, so as to induce the differences alluded to; as they are apart from others in certain ways, they acquire particular notions and modes of acting, and thus we see more of singularity among them than is to be discovered elsewhere. But in making this observation, we beg to be understood:—if there are the rude, the rough, the odd, and the ridiculous, in this extended body; it also boasts largely of its polite, its polished, its eminently intellectual, and its profoundly learned and scientific ornaments.

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* The place of his birth has been much disputed. The town of Abernethy in Scotland, and Derry, in Ireland, both claiming the distinction.

Returning to our Memoir, we may notice that an epocha took place in the surgical world during the youthful application of Mr. Abernethy; an epocha by which no one profited more beneficially than he did, for his own honorable progress, or the progress of the healing art. The celebrated John Hunter had commenced his admirable lectures in 1773, and the development of his great discoveries proceeded, while Abernethy from a boy had grown to be an emulous young man, arduous in seeking for that information which was to raise him to future eminence. He was fortunate enough to become the pupil of Mr. Hunter, and not only his pupil, but his friend; so that on the retirement of Mr. Pott, the assistant surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, his professional repute made him the successor of that gentleman, whose station of lecturer on anatomy and surgery he also soon after occupied in that great and benevolent school. At the commencement of his lectures, however, his class was far from being so numerously attended as might have been anticipated; but a consciousness of his own ability to raise it to a just pre-eminence sustained him under this discouragement. At this period, Dr. Marshall, who had established himself as a lecturer in the vicinity of the Hospital, far more than divided the popularity of medical instruction; and, though not distinguished for profound research, or for any novel improvements in discovery or practice, his manner and style were so agreeable as to confirm the hold he had taken on the great body of students, and continue the attraction of his courses to the last. His death, above twenty years ago, left Mr. Abernethy alone in the field, which he has ever since cultivated and enriched by an abundant display of talent of the highest order. Nothing, indeed, can surpass the fame and brilliancy of his lectures, striking the depths and shallows of that most intricate sea over which it is their business to range, clearing away errors and eliciting truths, correcting preceding mistakes and giving to light new and important discoveries. But, as the proofs of these merits are imbodied in his published works, they need not be dwelt on here; and, with reference to St. Bartholomew's, we have only to add, that on the death of his old master, then Sir Charles Blick, Mr. Abernethy succeeded to the senior surgeoncy, after having been assistant surgeon for the long period of about forty years.

Having briefly glanced at Mr. Abernethy as a *viva voce* teacher, in which capacity he has rarely been surpassed, for the extent of knowledge communicated to the many generations which have followed each other round his chair, we come now to speak of his more permanent position as an author of medical works. His earliest publication consisted of a few Physiological Essays, which were speedily succeeded by a small but clever Essay on the treatment of Lumbar Abscess. These formed, with some additions, his first volume in 8vo. London, 1793-7, entitled Surgical and Physiological Essays; and were distinguished by the same strong sense, and plain and forcible illustration, which have, from that time till now, marked all that has flowed from his tongue and pen, and elevated him to the imposing rank he has so long maintained among his professional brethren, and with the world in general. The great share of public approbation merited and procured by this work, was augmented by the appearance of yet more valuable performances. In 1804 was published, "Surgical Observations, containing a Classification of Tumours, with Cases to illustrate the History of each Species; an Account of Diseases," &c. &c.: and, in 1806, "Surgical Observations, Part Second, containing an Account of Disorders of the Health in general, and of the Digestive Organs in particular, which accompany Local Diseases, and obstruct their Cure." The fame of these volumes soon spread, not only throughout England, but over the Continent of Europe; and the French surgeons especially did homage to the masterly spirit they evinced. Bold and successful operations; practical and lucid descriptions; original and comprehensive views; all combined to enhance the great reputation of the Author, and to elevate the character of the national school of which he was so bright an ornament, and which had already risen so high through the splendid efforts of John and William Hunter.

It is not easy to catalogue Mr. Abernethy's ensuing publications, for they often appeared first in smaller portions, and were afterwards collected and enlarged; so that a volume embraced several separate parts, and repeated, together with new matter, much of what was previously known. Watt's laborious Bibliotheca Britannica enumerates " Surgical Observations on the Constitutional Origin and Treatment of Local Diseases; and on Aneurisms. London, 8vo. 1809. Mr. Abernethy's memorable cases of tying the Iliac Artery for Aneurism, are detailed in this volume: the success of the operation is almost an era in adventurous surgical experiment, and reflects immense credit on the judgment and skill of the operator.—The preceding, and later works up to the present day, are comprised in Messrs. Longman and Co's. catalogue, where we find Abernethy's authorship in six octavo volumes. 1. " On the Origin and Treatment of Local Diseases; and on Aneurisms, including Directions for the Treatment of Disorders of the Digestive Organs." 2. " On Diseases resembling Syphilis, and on Diseases of the Urethra." 3. " On Injuries of the Head, and miscellaneous subjects." 4. " Lumbar Abscesses and Tumours." 5. " Physiological Lectures, (collected in one vol.)" And, 6. Another volume of " Physiological Lectures."*

Such are the valuable, we may say invaluable, productions of Mr. Abernethy, which are consulted by the most distinguished of the Faculty, as the most certain authorities to which they can apply on the wide and interesting sweep of subjects they embrace. Nor have their technicalities prevented them from also experiencing a success, rare among scientific discussions, that of being widely popular with judicious readers of every intelligent class; Mr. Abernethy, among his other discoveries, having found out the way to render his books as entertaining and attractive as they are instructive and important. His acute reasoning, his sensible advice, intelligible to every capacity, and his prodigious mass of information acquired by long practice and experience, render him, indeed, an excellent guide for all, whether learned or unlearned.

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* A dispute recently ensued between Mr. Abernethy and the proprietors of a medical journal, called the Lancet, respecting the piracy of his Lectures, and their publication in an imperfect and mutilated shape. Like most discussions connected with medical matters, it degenerated below the character observed in almost every other species of literary warfare.

In writing a biography of Mr. Abernethy, it is impossible not to mention more of that decision, attended by bluntness of manner, of which we have already given some examples. It is worthy of observation, that for above a century and a half, the capital has seen a regular succession of medical men, heretofore physicians, who have differed from the rest in this respect, and substituted a certain roughness of mien and speech, for the more customary suavity of the profession. Whether affected or natural, this practice has much whereon to found its apology and justify its consequences, as well as something to impeach its propriety, and assail its effect. Such a character as this before us would be anxious to avoid the evils of doubt and wavering, and, by straight-forward plainness, inspire his patients with that confidence in his power which is so likely to contribute essentially to their cure. On the other hand, it must be confessed, that it is both a relief and satisfaction to the majority of invalids, to be permitted to communicate all their ailments, and even fancies, to the individual to whose prescriptions they look for restoration to health. Their accounts may be tedious, their fears irrational, and their feelings erroneous; but still it seems to be a duty in the professional man in whose hands they esteem their life or death to be placed, to make great allowances for them, and to listen as far as possible to their obscure and perplexing histories, rather than cut them short with sharp rebuke, or passionate dismissal. The calmness of the doctor, above all other professions, ought to be provoked into irritation as little and as seldom as philosophy can teach a hasty temperament to tolerate the frailties of mankind.

The multitude of amusing instances related of Mr. Abernethy's disregard of this principle would fill a whole memoir, longer than that which our limits admit; and they are mostly so well known, that to record them here would expose us to the risk of egregious repetition. But as such whims are characteristic, and in no way derogate from the extraordinary and acknowledged skill of the party, whose success as a surgeon has conferred blessings on thousands of his fellow-creatures, we trust we may be excused for enlivening the dry record of books published, by one or two anecdotes of their author.*

Mrs. I——— consulted him on a nervous disorder, the minutiæ of which appeared to be so fantastical, that Mr. Abernethy interrupted their frivolous detail, by holding out his hand for the fee. A one-pound note and a shilling were placed in it; upon which he returned the latter to his fair patient, with the angry exclamation, "There, Ma'am! go and buy a skipping rope: that is all you want."

Mr. Abernethy's strong point in prescribing is generally addressed to the relief of the bowels, and to the lowering and regulation of diet and regimen. He is, consequently, much sought in dispeptic disorders; and, it is stated, often refers to such or such a page in one of his books, where he has already given the remedy. The patients have only to buy the work, where they will find an exact description of their symptoms, and a recipe for their cure. On one occasion, a lady, unsatisfied with this amount of information, persisted in extracting from Mr. A. what she might eat, and, after suffering from her volubility with considerable patience for a while, he exclaimed, to the repeated "May I eat oysters, Doctor? May I eat suppers?" 'I'll tell you what, Ma'am, you may eat any thing but the poker and the bellows, for the one is too hard of digestion, and the other is full of wind."

The reported fashion of his courtship and marriage, is also extremely characteristic. It is told, that while attending a lady for several weeks, he observed those admirable qualifications in her daughter, which he truly esteemed to be calculated to render the married state happy. Accordingly, on a Saturday, when taking leave of his patient, he addressed her to the following purport. "You are now so well, that I need not see you after Monday next, when I shall come and pay you my farewell visit. But, in the mean time, I wish you and your daughter seriously to consider the proposal I am now about to make. It is abrupt and unceremonious, I am aware, but the excessive occupation of my time, by my professional duties, affords me no leisure to accomplish what I desire by the more ordinary course of attention and solicitation. My annual receipts amount to £———, and I can settle £—— on my wife: my character is generally known to the public, so that you may readily ascertain what it is: I have seen in your daughter a tender and affectionate child, an assiduous and careful nurse, and a gentle and lady-like member of a family; such a person must be all that a husband could covet, and I offer my hand and fortune for her acceptance. On Monday, when I call, I shall expect your determination; for I really have not time for the routine of courtship." In this humour, the lady was wooed and won: and, we believe we may add, the union has been felicitous in every respect.

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* The frequent accusations of being *over-bearing*, probably led some wit to discover, that the anagram of the name of *John Abernethy* was *Johnny the Bear.*

But we will detain our readers no farther with story-telling: a yet more pleasant part of our task remains to be performed. It is to record the humanity and liberality of Mr. Abernethy; of which no small number of examples have come under our own eye. Where poverty and disease have prevented individuals from waiting upon him in his own house for advice, we have known him not only visit them constantly, and at inconvenient distances, without fee or reward, but generously supply them from his own purse with what their wants required. More affecting instances of charity and generosity, seconding the utmost exertions of medical skill, could not be produced from the life of any of his contemporaries, (liberable and admirable as the conduct of many of them is,*) than from that of John Abernethy; and if it were ours to strike a balance between the harmless eccentricities we have noticed, and the incalculable mass of good he has done, we would set him high among the highest on the pedestals of those who have done honor to a profession, second only to one in the scale of human hopes and happiness.

Mr. Abernethy, though now in the vale of years, and declined in strength from what he formerly was, is still full of employment. He possesses many learned distinctions; but the greatest of all are those justly due to his own memorable labours.

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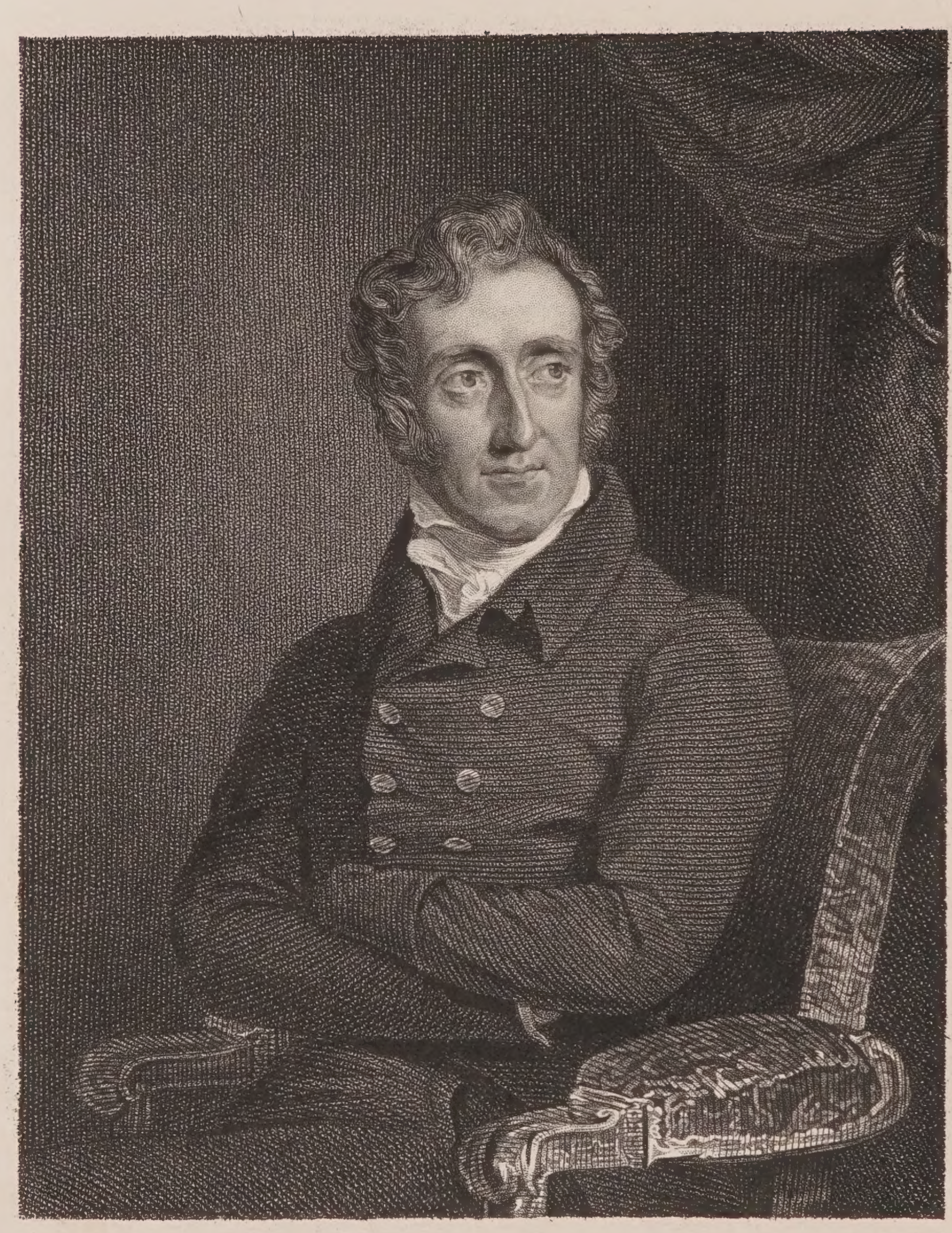
* Having offered some miscellaneous remarks on medical men, it is but an act of justice to the body, founded on the experience of many years, to state, that, as liberal benefactors of society, giving time, their most valuable property, to the poor and suffering, and in the most effectual ways devoting themselves to the alleviation of misery, we know of no profession that can be compared to theirs.



G. Hayter, Esq. Scriven.

HENRY WELBORE AGAR ELLIS, F.S.A. VISCOUNT CLIFDEN.

Clifden

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1830.

HENRY-WELBORE AGAR-ELLIS, F.S.A.

VISCOUNT CLIFDEN.

TOWARDS the close of 1829, the Honorable GEORGE AGAR ELLIS, the son and heir-apparent to Lord Clifden, (of whom we are happy to say we have also a finely engraved Portrait nearly ready for this work,) published a very interesting historical document, under the title of "The Ellis Correspondence." It consisted of letters written during the important years 1686-7-8, and besides throwing a light upon the great Revolution effected at that period, made us acquainted with the ancestry and family whence the subject of this memoir is descended. The name of Ellis was remarkably distinguished among those whom the political changes of the times brought into action; for of six sons of the Rev. John Ellis, who died November 3d, 1681, the eldest was John, (to whom the correspondence is addressed at Dublin,) a secretary to the Revenue Commissioners under James II., and afterwards Comptroller of the Mint and Under Secretary of State to William III.; the second was Sir William Ellis, who, following the fortunes of the exiled Stuarts, was Treasurer and Secretary of State to the Prince, yet died a Protestant at Rome; the third was Philip, a Jesuit of much influence at the court of James, and, finally, Romish Bishop of Segni, in Italy; the fourth, Welbore, was Protestant Bishop of Meath, and the direct founder of the present noble house; and the fifth and sixth were in the profession of medicine and the law.

The John Ellis, to whom these six sons were born, traced his ancestry to the Conquest; from the date of which event, they had been settled at Kiddall Hall, in the county of York: he was rector of Waddesdon, Suffolk, and married to

Susanna, the daughter of William Welbore, Esq. of Cambridge. Welbore, their fourth son, having acquired the most liberal education, and taken the degree of D.D. was, after various church preferments, ordained Bishop of Kildare in 1705, and translated to the see of Meath in 1731, where he died about two years afterwards. He was a member of the Privy Council, and left by his lady, Diana, daughter of Sir John Briscoe, of Amberley Castle, Sussex, and grand-daughter of Nicholas, Earl of Banbury, two surviving children, namely, a son, Welbore, and a daughter, Anne.

Welbore rose to high consideration in the state, and filled many offices of great trust and responsibility. In 1749, he was a Lord of Admiralty; in 1755, Vice-Treasurer of Ireland; in 1763, Secretary at War; in 1765 and 1770, again Vice-Treasurer of Ireland; and in 1782, Secretary of State. Having discharged the duties of these important stations in a manner which signally entitled him to honorable reward, he was, in 1794, created a peer, as Lord Mendip, of Mendip, in the county of Somerset, with remainder, he having no issue, to the issue male of his sister Anne, by her marriage with Henry Agar, Esq.

The family of Agar are of French extraction, and belonged to the Comte Venaissin, whence they fled, to avoid the religious persecutions which wasted the country, and drove its best citizens into banishment. They had also settled in the shire of York, but, by intermarrying into Ireland, they became landed proprietors there; and James Agar, of Gowran Castle, in the county of Kilkenny, sat for many years in the Irish Parliament, as the representative of the respective boroughs of Leighlin and Gowran. By his second wife, Mary, the eldest daughter of Sir Henry Wemyss, of Danesfort, and who lived to the extraordinary age of one hundred and six, he had several children, of whom Henry,* the eldest, married, as already mentioned, in 1733, Anne Ellis, daughter to the Bishop of Meath, and sister to the first Lord Mendip.

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* In sketching the noble genealogy and alliances of this family, we should state, that George, eldest son of James Agar, a younger brother of Henry, was created Lord Callan, and Ellis, one of his sisters, Countess of Brandon; but neither of them left issue to perpetuate these titles.

Of this marriage were born James, the first Baron and Viscount Clifden, and Charles, (third son,) Archbishop of Dublin, and founder of the Irish Earldom of Normanton; besides other male and female issue. James, created Lord Clifden, July 1776, and Viscount in 1781, was a Privy Councillor in Ireland, one of his Majesty's Commissioners of the Customs, and Post-master-General in that kingdom; and, who, previously to his elevation to the peerage, had long represented the county of Kilkenny in Parliament. He married, in March 1760, Lucia, eldest daughter of John Martin, Esq., and widow of the Hon. H. B. Walsingham, second son of the Earl of Shannon; by that lady he had, besides other offspring, Henry-Welbore, the present peer, who succeeded him on the 1st of January, 1789.

Previously to the death of his father, Lord Clifden for several years represented the county of Kilkenny in the Irish Parliament, and, subsequently to that event, till 1802, when the death of his uncle, Lord Mendip,* called him to the upper House, he took his place in the English Parliament for the borough of Heytesbury. He is thus, it has been observed, perhaps the only nobleman now alive, who has sat consecutively in four different houses of Parliament,—the Irish Houses of Commons and Lords, and the English Houses of Commons and Lords. His Lordship has also for some years filled the offices of Clerk of the Privy Council in Ireland, and Recorder of Gowran.

In his parliamentary life Lord Clifden has taken a prominent part upon all questions affecting the interests of Ireland, and has shown himself to be actuated by a constant love of that country upon every occasion. His Lordship's style in speaking is straight-forward, and to the purpose. Without attempting the ornaments of oratory, he is so evidently animated by zeal, and a conviction of being correct in the views which he takes, that his reasoning carries much weight with it; and even those who differ from him, are forced to confess that nothing but a patriotic feeling, as pure as it is strong, is the source of his unceasing efforts to promote our national prosperity. On the late Roman Catholic question, it may readily be supposed, Lord Clifden was an earnest and indefatigable advocate for the measure. He was charged with the presentation of, we believe, several hundred of the petitions in its favour, and he frequently addressed the House in support of them. Not only did he give his vote to the Duke of Wellington, but in one of his speeches he warmly defended the conduct of Mr. Peel, and of all those who had changed their opinions as to the expediency, and the necessity, of this vitally important act, and agreed with him in considering it to be essential to the restoration of tranquillity and comfort in Ireland.

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* On this event he assumed the name of Ellis.

His Lordship is now sixty-nine years of age, and enjoys the titles of Viscount Clifden, Lord Clifden, and Baron of Gowran, in the county of Kilkenny, and peerage of Ireland; and Lord Mendip, Baron Mendip, in the county of Somerset, and peerage of Great Britain. He married, 10th March, 1792, Lady Caroline Spencer, eldest daughter of George, third Duke of Marlborough, (by Lady Caroline Russell, only daughter of John, fourth Duke of Bedford,) who died November 23d, 1813, at Blenheim, in the county of Oxford, the seat of her father. Her family consisted of a daughter and a son, the Honorable Caroline Anne Agar Ellis, since deceased, and the Honorable George James Welbore Agar Ellis, to whom we have alluded at the beginning of this brief sketch, and whose literary attainments, love and patronage of the fine arts, and public spirit, both as a senator and an eminent and efficient promoter of every plan which has for its object the benefit of society, or the improvement of mankind, will, we trust, ere long, supply us with an ample and gratifying subject wherewith to adorn this Portrait Gallery.

Lord Clifden's principal residences are Gowran Castle and Ringwood, in the county of Kilkenny, and Roehampton, in the county of Surrey.

Painted by Sir Thos. Lawrence. P.R.A.

Engraved by J. Jenkins.

THE Rt. HONble. FREDERICK JOHN ROBINSON, VISCOUNT GODERICH.

Goderich

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1830.

THE RIGHT HON. FREDERICK JOHN ROBINSON,

VISCOUNT GODERICH.

In the sketch of the life of Lord Grantham, the brother of the distinguished individual, a memoir of whom we have now the pleasure to lay before our readers, we gave the usual genealogical details which are necessary in tracing the ancestry of noble families; and consequently there is no occasion for our again travelling over the same ground. All that we have to state of private or family history, may be comprised in a few words. Lord Goderich was born November 1st, 1782; he was educated at Sunbury, at Harrow, and at Cambridge. On the 1st of September, 1814, he married Lady Sarah Hobart, only daughter of Robert, Earl of Buckinghamshire; and, with his Lady, has since inherited the landed property of that nobleman. His Lordship has had three children:—the *first* a daughter, born May 22d, 1815, who died at the interesting age of eleven years, on the 31st of October, 1826; *second,* a son, born in September, 1816, and who only survived three days; and, *third,* a son, born October 24th, 1827, now living.

From this domestic summary we pass to the public career of the noble Lord—a career of unusual variety and importance, and bearing upon times of such national difficulty and danger, as even the present portentous epoch can hardly, we trust, be expected to revive.

Mr. Robinson's first connexion with public life was in 1804, when he acted as Private Secretary to his relation Lord Hardwicke, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He quitted Ireland when that nobleman was recalled, after Mr. Pitt's death, at the commencement of 1806, and came into Parliament for the first time, upon the dissolution which took place in the autumn of that year. He then sat for the borough of Carlow. When Parliament was dissolved in the spring of 1807, he was returned for Ripon, which place he continued to represent for twenty successive years. In the summer of that year, he accompanied Lord Pembroke upon a special mission to Vienna, and returned to England with that nobleman in the following autumn. Up to the year 1809, Mr. Robinson took little part in the debates in Parliament; but he supported the new government formed under the Duke of Portland, in 1807, stating it to be his opinion, that the change was rendered necessary by the course which the previous administration had pursued in their communications with George the Third upon the subject of the Catholic question. At the commencement of the session of 1809, Mr. Robinson moved the address, and on doing so expressed in the strongest manner his conviction of the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the war in Spain; the attack upon which country by Buonaparte, he truly characterized as being as unjust in its design, as it was perfidious in its execution. In the spring of the same year he was appointed Under Secretary of State, by Lord Castlereagh, who then held the seals of the Colonial and War department; and when that noble lord quitted office in the subsequent September, upon occasion of the unhappy differences in the Cabinet, which terminated in a duel between his Lordship and Mr. Canning, Mr. Robinson felt himself bound in honor to retire at the same time although we have reason to believe that he was most strongly urged by Mr. Perceval, then at the head of the government, either to retain his office as Under Secretary of State, or to accept of a seat at the Board of Treasury or Admiralty. Although, however, he felt himself compelled by a sense of duty to decline these offers, he did not take part in the formidable opposition by which Mr. Perceval's government was assailed, upon the opening of the session of 1810. We find him, on the contrary, strenuously supporting the proposition of the government to grant an annuity of £2000 to the Duke of Wellington, in consideration of his eminent services in the preceding campaign, which some individuals then in Parliament greatly undervalued, and endeavoured to depreciate. In the summer of that year, his near relation, Mr. Charles Yorke, was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty; and at his request, and with the entire concurrence and approbation of Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Robinson accepted a seat at that board. He remained in that situation till 1812, when, upon the lamentable death of Mr. Perceval, and the accession of Lord Liverpool to the head of the government, he became a member of the Privy Council, and was appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade, upon the resignation of Mr. Rose.* At that time, no salary was attached to the office of Vice-President, and Mr. Robinson became one of the Lords of the Treasury, which he subsequently gave up, upon being made Joint Paymaster of the Forces. The latter situation was soon after abolished, and a regular salary assigned to the Vice-President of the Board of Trade. Mr. Robinson held that post till the commencement of 1818; and upon the death of Mr. Rose, and the resignation of Lord Clancarty, he succeeded the latter as President of the Board of Trade, and the former as Treasurer of the Navy: the necessity of holding the two offices at the same time, being occasioned by the circumstance of there being no salary whatever attached to the higher office of President, although one had been assigned by act of Parliament to the inferior post of Vice-President. He became also at the same time a member of the Cabinet. He discharged the duties of the important and responsible post of President of the Board of Trade for six years; and at the commencement of 1823, his late Majesty was graciously pleased, upon the retirement of Lord Bexley, to appoint him to the more arduous and distinguished situation of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

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* In the winter of 1813, Mr. Robinson accompanied Lord Castlereagh to the Continent, and thus became personally cognizant of all the interesting and great events which terminated in the overthrow of Buonaparte's power.

When Mr. Canning was appointed to the head of the government in 1827, he necessarily took the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, in conjunction with that of First Lord of the Treasury; Mr. Robinson was then honored with the dignity of the peerage, by the title of Viscount Goderich, which had been borne by his maternal ancestor, the last Duke of Kent, of the family of Grey; and the seals of the Colonial Office were, at the same time, placed in his hands. Upon the death of Mr. Canning in August 1827, the late king conferred upon Lord Goderich the elevated station of First Lord of the Treasury, which he held for a few months only, under circumstances of no ordinary difficulty, and resigned in the month of January, 1828.

It thus appears, that during eighteen years Lord Goderich filled various situations in public life, some of which were of great importance, and connected with the highest interests of the state; and although it would be going far beyond the scope and object of the present biographical sketch, if we were to enter into any detailed consideration of the mode in which he fulfilled the various duties which devolved upon him, we nevertheless think, that we should not do him justice, if we omitted altogether to advert to it. He was connected with the Board of Trade for upwards of ten years; and although, in the first instance, the Earl of Clancarty discharged the duties of President, that nobleman, we believe, ceased to attend the Board after the month of November, 1813, being appointed ambassador to Holland, so that for four years the whole business of the department fell upon Lord Goderich as Vice-President, although at that time he was not a member of the Cabinet. The extraordinary duration and peculiar character of the war, which terminated in 1814, had placed all the commercial relations of this country in so strange and perplexed a situation, that the restoration of peace did not offer any immediate means of determining what ought to be the precise nature of the regulations under which they should thereafter be carried on. Our currency was in a very unsatisfactory state, and Parliament had not as yet pronounced any thing like a definitive opinion upon its future condition. Our taxes in every branch were enormously high; and, as Lord Goderich has correctly expressed it upon more than one occasion, had unavoidably been imposed rather to meet an immediate fiscal necessity, than adopted from any prospective consideration of the consequences to which such heavy burdens might ultimately lead. The price of every thing, whether intended for home or foreign consumption, was thus, by the combined operation of a depreciated currency and an excessive rate of taxation, unnaturally high. In the mean time, and under these circumstances, it was not to be expected that the trade of the world, which had been long cramped, restricted, and distorted, by the inevitable effects of Buonaparte's continental system and of our retaliatory policy, during the last years of the war, could at once revert to a natural and healthy state. Many new interests had grown up; many new prejudices had apparently been engendered, and many old ones confirmed: and even if it had been possible to see at one glance what ought to be the course of our policy, no one could pretend to say what might be the views or principles of other countries in similar circumstances. But we think we are entitled to state, judging by the sentiments expressed and the course pursued by Lord Goderich, even at an early period after the final cessation of the war, that he was satisfied that the real policy would be to break as soon as possible through the trammels of restriction, and above all, of prohibition, which had so long existed, and from which, but for the intervention of the French revolutionary war, there is now no doubt that Mr. Pitt would have departed.

The first great question which Mr. Robinson, as Vice-President of the Board of Trade, submitted to Parliament, was the Corn bill of 1815: at that time he was not a member of the cabinet, and may therefore be considered as having acted an executive rather than a deliberative part, in proposing that measure: but in opening the subject, he seems to have studiously avoided taking up the extravagant and high ground upon which many persons, active supporters of restrictive corn laws, were desirous of placing the general policy of agricultural protection: and nothing could manifest more strongly how little he was disposed to favour a high restrictive system in matters of this sort, as a permanent arrangement, than his declaration at the commencement of his speech, that he considered the question as a choice, not only of difficulties, but of positive evils; and upon all subsequent occasions he has not only strenuously opposed every attempt (and they were neither few nor inactive) to increase the restrictive character of the corn laws, but has cordially supported every measure calculated to relax the rigour of that which an immense majority of Parliament enacted in 1815.

In the same year, 1815, the Vice President of the Board of Trade had an opportunity of showing the principles upon which he wished the commercial interests of the country to proceed, in a negotiation with which he was intrusted, together with Mr. Goulburn and Dr. Adams, for settling our commercial relations with the United States. In this instrument, the principle of what is called "reciprocity" in respect to duties, either directly or indirectly affecting navigation, was established; and Mr. Robinson (by whose advice, in this matter, it is probable that the government was not uninfluenced,) thus gave additional effect to a principle which Mr. Pitt and Lord Grenville had recognized in their negotiations with Mr. Jay in 1794, and which had been adopted in 1810 in our commercial treaties with Portugal and Brazil. This arrangement with the United States, which was to last for three years only, was afterwards renewed for ten years in 1818, by a treaty again negotiated by Lord Goderich. Subsequent treaties with other powers have since given a further development to this system, and, notwithstanding all the clamour which has been raised upon the subject, we can confidently refer to the various returns laid before Parliament, as containing an unanswerable refutation of all that has been advanced against it, and an unequivocal proof that it has not been followed by any of those formidable consequences to the interests of British navigation, which were so confidently predicted by the enemies of this judicious change.

It was, however, a considerable time before the public mind appeared to be prepared for any material alteration in our commercial system; and Mr. Robinson, who from his situation had so many opportunities of knowing how this fact stood, urged this consideration, in 1816, as one of his reasons for objecting to a motion made by Mr. Brougham, having that alteration for its object. It is material, however, to observe, that although Mr. Robinson opposed Mr. Brougham's motion, he acquiesced in the most unqualified manner in the truth of the general principles which he had laid down, and seemed gladly to avail himself of the opportunity which the question afforded, of showing to the public the nature of those views of liberal policy in commercial matters, of the abstract wisdom of which the government was convinced, and which subsequent events have happily enabled Parliament successfully to adopt. At length, in 1820, an occasion occurred which appeared to furnish the means of, at least, laying the foundation of the contemplated change. A petition was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Baring, signed by a most numerous, respectable, and intelligent body of merchants, laying down the soundest principles of commercial policy, and calling upon Parliament to consider the propriety of giving effect to them. Mr. Baring supported the prayer of the petition in an admirable and convincing speech, and Mr. Robinson hailed its presentation as an event of great importance, and professed the readiness and anxiety of his Majesty's government to give to its contents the most favourable consideration. A committee was subsequently appointed, over which Mr. Wallace, (then Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and now Lord Wallace,) presided; and many important measures, and, especially the establishment of many important principles, resulted from its labours.

In the mean time, no part of our commercial system had become of more vital consequence, or required more instantly a wise revision, than that which affected the intercourse of our colonies, both with one another, and with other parts of the world. During the war, our laws upon this subject had been fluctuating and indeterminate; but it became obvious, in a few years after the return of peace, that the state of things existing in the ancient Spanish colonies, the new situation of Brazil, and, generally, the altered condition of the commercial world at large, were quite incompatible with the maintenance of our old systematic exclusion of foreign trade with the colonies. Accordingly we find, that, in the year 1822, Mr. Robinson proposed to parliament, and successfully carried through, two very important measures relating to our colonial commerce. It is not necessary to go into detail respecting their provisions; but it is demonstrable, from what has been stated, that they proceeded upon the principle that our colonies were entitled to seek from the mother country a more free admission, than had hitherto been given to them, into the advantages of general commerce; an admission not only called for upon principles of justice towards the colonies, but likely to conduce to the general welfare of all his Majesty's dominions. Whilst we entirely approve of the object of these measures, we have to regret (in which we doubt not Lord Goderich now joins) that their adoption had been so long delayed.

When Lord Goderich was entrusted with the seals of the Exchequer, in 1823, circumstances were, in many respects, favourable to him. Considerable reductions had previously taken place in the public expenditure, various taxes had been materially diminished, and the produce of the Revenue was improving. The ratio between income and expenditure had become such as to leave a considerable surplus, and his Lordship lost no time in availing himself of this circumstance, for the purpose of commencing a systematic diminution of our heavy taxation, which upon every account he deemed to be essential to the well-doing of our finances. He opened the subject to the House of Commons at an unusually early period of the session, (a practice to which he uniformly adhered in subsequent years,) and, after showing that the surplus might be taken at £7,200,000, he proposed an immediate reduction of direct taxes to the amount of £2,200,000, or £2,300,000, including the whole of the assessed taxes in Ireland. He appears to have thought that many reasons combined to render it more advisable to make at once this great reduction upon the assessed taxes, which were felt by all classes to press with peculiar severity; and the satisfaction with which this measure was received by the public, justified his determination. He took, however, at the same time another step in the reduction of duties, founded upon a different principle, to which it is material to advert, not only on account of its intrinsic importance, but because he afterwards carried it still further with the most complete success. There had long prevailed, both in Ireland and in Scotland, an extensive and most mischievous system of illicit distillation: various means had been resorted to for suppressing it, but without success; and the description which Lord Goderich gave of its evil character and consequences, was in no degree overcharged. There seemed to remain no alternative but such an effectual diminution of the duty upon spirits in that part of the united kingdom, as would take away from the illicit distiller the temptation to prosecute his unlawful and demoralizing traffic. No diminution, however, would have proved effectual, that was not carried to an extent which many might have thought would cost the revenue more than, upon Lord Goderich's calculation, it could afford. He, however, came to a different conclusion; and although the loss to the revenue consequent upon the diminution which he proposed, would have been no less than £800,000 per annum, if the measure did not effect its object of stopping illicit distillation, he nevertheless was so satisfied that it would fully answer the intended purpose, that he did not hesitate to incur the risk, stating at the time his entire conviction, that in the result no loss whatever to the revenue would be sustained. The accounts since laid before parliament entirely warrant this anticipation. Lord Goderich acted upon this principle upon various subsequent occasions, and during the four years in which he was charged with the duties of Chancellor of the Exchequer, he repealed taxes to the amount of no less than £9,000,000. It is not necessary to go into detail upon this subject, but it may be stated generally, that his plan appears to have been to apply the modification of taxes systematically to the following objects.

1. The diminution of the annoyance and pressure of the direct or assessed taxes. 2. The suppression of smuggling, and the extension of legitimate commerce, by the diminution of duties either highly restrictive, or positively prohibitive. 3. The extension of the home consumption of various articles, the duties upon which were so high as to constitute a material portion of their total charge to the consumer. Differences may naturally exist as to the precise mode in which these principles were applied, but no one, we think, can deny that they were sound in themselves; and Lord Goderich has since had the gratification of finding that his hopes of effecting good have been completely realized, and that a reduction of duties amounting to £9,000,000 has not upon an average cost the Revenue more than £2,000,000; a sum considerably less than he had ventured to anticipate, and evincing a large and regular increase in the consumption, by the mass of the people, of all articles charged with duty. Whilst these measures were in progress, we find, upon reference to the proceedings in Parliament, that Lord Goderich's attention was also steadily applied to a reduction of the great expense of collecting the Revenue, and many important measures, aiming at that object, were carried into effect; and although it is obvious that the full benefit of such measures cannot in any case be attained at once, a great diminution of the charge was immediately brought about. Our limits will not permit us to enlarge upon other parts of Lord Goderich's administration of the finances, which nevertheless involve questions of much interest in themselves: but in the year 1825, events took place, commonly called the panic, to which we feel bound to advert, because Lord Goderich has been most unjustly charged with having first tended to promote it by the exaggerated picture which he drew in that year of the prosperous condition of the country, and of having afterwards accelerated its effects by the language which he used, in conjunction with Lord Liverpool, upon the subject of country banks in England, in a correspondence with the Governor of the Bank. With respect to the first charge, we will give his defence in his own words, as delivered in the House of Com-

mons in the year 1826: "By coming boldly to the discussion of that remedy, it would be seen that the difficulties of the plan which he had suggested had been considerably overrated, and that the fears of the country bankers had been carried to an extravagant length. And when he mentioned the country bankers, let him not be misunderstood. He condemned the law under which they acted, but he did not condemn them. It was to the system, and not to the men, that he alluded; and it was that system which he was anxious to alter. As to the individuals connected with the present private banks, he believed firmly that generally they were entitled to the highest praise for honor, integrity, and stability. It was the system under which they acted, that produced the evil; and he felt convinced, that the alteration in that law which he now submitted to the committee, would not have the effect of shaking that confidence which the country was disposed to place in them."—We will add on our own part, that we quite concur in these statements, and that we cannot take so narrow a view of the condition of such a country as this, as to conceive that it is to be estimated by the events of one particular year. Human foresight cannot anticipate every fluctuation of circumstances; human prudence cannot avert every casual evil; the duty of the Minister and the Legislator is to act upon sound principles, with honest intentions; and he may confidently entertain the hope of seeing most of those difficulties which are incident to civil society, successfully overcome.

With respect to the second charge to which we have alluded, it has always appeared to us to be perfectly unfounded. It proceeds upon a sort of assumption that the correspondence in question *preceded* the panic, whereas it did not take place, and certainly was not made public, till long after confidence had begun to revive, and business had reverted to its natural channels. The first symptom of the panic took place in August 1825, when the Plymouth bank failed. It is now known to have long been in a rotten condition; but its dealings were extensive, and the consequences of its failure spread far and wide, producing universal alarm: other banks gave way in succession, both in London and the country; some which were perfectly sound were severely run upon, and exposed to great danger; the value of all public securities rapidly deteriorated; the stocks fell; money was hastily and extensively drawn out of the Savings' Banks; Exchequer bills, which had been at a high premium, fell to a discount, and many holders of them required money in lieu of fresh bills, when the period of payment came round. The Bank of England in the mean time was exposed to a formidable drain upon its specie, and we have good reason to believe that many influential persons urged upon the ministers the absolute necessity of an order of council, to prevent the Bank from paying its notes in gold. The government, however, firmly resisted every suggestion of that sort; they saw the tremendous evils which would infallibly result from its adoption, and they had good reason at the time, from a variety of concurrent circumstances, to deny its necessity and even its expediency. The event justified their firmness; and it was not until all immediate cause of alarm was over, and the Bank relieved from any chance of danger, that Lord Liverpool and Lord Goderich called upon that body to consider in what mode the country might be best protected against the recurrence of so great a mischief. The correspondence in question was not laid before Parliament till the month of February, 1826. It is then evident, that even if exception may reasonably be taken to any particular expressions in that correspondence, no part of the previous panic can by possibility be ascribed to it. We have not space to notice with any particularity the measures brought forward by Lord Liverpool and his colleague, for improving, as they thought, the condition of our currency; but with respect to the first, which provided for the extinction of the one-pound notes at an earlier period than was settled by the then existing law, Lord Liverpool and Mr. Robinson proceeded upon the principle, that the inconveniences which might be felt from the want of the smaller notes, and the possible contraction of the general currency which it might occasion, would be fairly counterbalanced by the security which all other issues of Bank paper would derive from it; and as to the other measure which was intended to give greater facilities to the establishment of country banks upon the Scotch system, but which was rendered comparatively inoperative from the difficulties arising out of the Bank Charter, we will only say upon this occasion, that we agree with what Lord Goderich stated last session in the House of Lords, that the time is fast approaching when these difficulties *must* be entirely removed. Whilst Lord Goderich was thus carrying on the duties of his particular department, we find him taking his share as a member of the government, in many of the general questions which were discussed during that time. He earnestly co-operated with Mr. Huskisson in all his arrangements for giving greater freedom to the operations of commerce; he was a regular supporter of the Catholic question, in the final success of which no one rejoiced more warmly than he did, and when the conduct of the British government in respect to the attack of France upon Spain, in 1822, was animadverted upon, he took a prominent line in its defence, deprecating the war, which a more direct interference on our part would infallibly have produced, upon the ground that, a war undertaken upon that occasion would have led to consequences of most serious import; inasmuch as he felt persuaded that the source of future discord in Europe, would be found not in disputes about territorial limits, commercial pretensions, or family claims to royal succession, but in great differences of principle as to internal government, where the desire of maintaining uncontrolled authority, would be arrayed in unmitigated hostility against the call for unqualified freedom; a war in short of extremes, in which lawful authority and rational freedom might both be lost. May we hope that we are not fated to see this contest raging in our days!

When Mr. Canning was appointed First Lord of the Treasury, in 1827, Lord Goderich did not feel that he should be justified in taking the course followed by several of his colleagues and friends; and having no personal or public grounds, that could justify his refusal to act under Mr. Canning, he determined to remain with him, and accepted the seals of the

Colonial department. In coming to this decision, he does not appear to have been influenced by considerations of mere personal attachment to Mr. Canning, with whom his connexion, though always friendly, had never been one of long established private intercourse. But he has always expressed a high opinion of his talents; he thought his character and conduct most cruelly and unjustly traduced, and he appears to have shared those principles of public policy of which Mr. Canning was the powerful and eloquent advocate. Lamenting, therefore, as he did, the breaking up of old political connexions which took place at that period, Lord Goderich, as he could not ascribe it to any thing justly imputable to Mr. Canning, felt that an abandonment of him on his part, would have been at once dishonorable and unjustifiable.

On the loss of that distinguished man, his late Majesty, as we have already said, was pleased to send for Lord Goderich, and place in his hands the office of First Lord of the Treasury. It has been understood that it was the wish of his Majesty, in any arrangements for successors in office, which might be found necessary in consequence of the vacancy created by the death of Mr. Canning, that no proceeding should be adopted which should, by the introduction of individuals not before belonging to the government, change its general character either as to men or measures. Lord Goderich, therefore, succeeded to all the difficulties which belonged to the composition of Mr. Canning's administration. It will be in the recollection of cotemporaries, that great doubts were entertained, as to the possibility of Mr. Canning being able to keep the government which he had formed together, and yet the following short analysis of its component parts will show, that independently of the great personal sway which his unrivalled talents as an orator gave him in the House of Commons, he had, as compared with Lord Goderich, an incomparably better chance of successfully cementing the somewhat heterogeneous elements of which the Cabinet was composed.

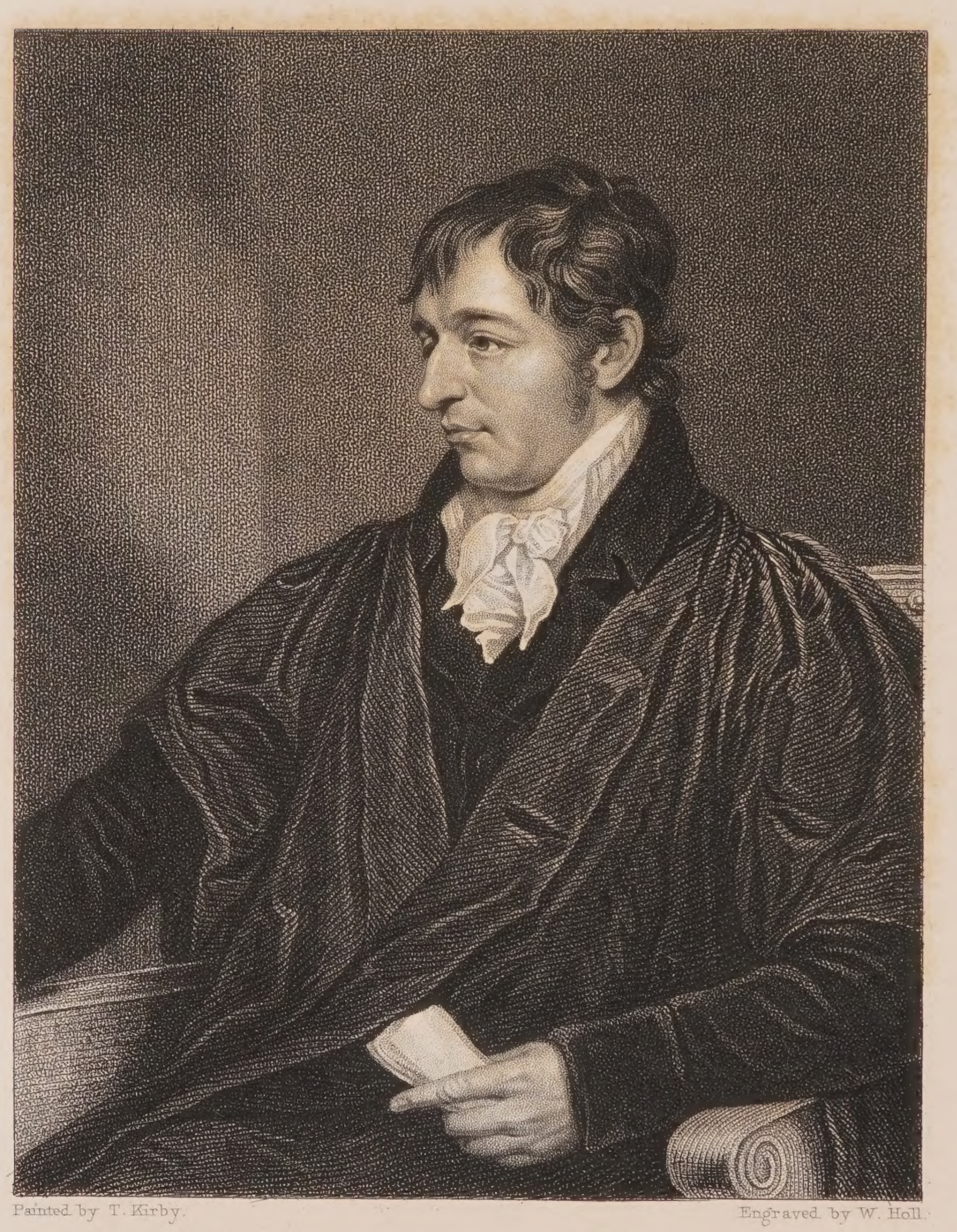
Mr. Canning's government was composed of moderate Whigs, moderate Tories, and of a few Tories of less liberal principles. The first party, at the head of which was Lord Lansdowne, had almost adopted Mr. Canning as their political leader, and had certainly, on the defection of his former colleagues, enabled him by their support to form a government; but their adoption was confined to him personally. The moderate Tories were chiefly composed of Mr. Canning's personal friends, on whom he could confidently rely. These two parties concurred in opinion on the great domestic question of Catholic Emancipation. In the third party, very inferior in number to the other two, the leading personage in station and talent was the Lord Chancellor, Lord Lyndhurst; but as he had been selected by Mr. Canning, it may be assumed, that difference of opinion upon the one question of Catholic Emancipation, would not have prevented the fullest identity of interest, as to the maintenance of the government. Among the principal Whigs it is also to be observed, that Lord Carlisle (a member of the Cabinet) was a personal friend of Mr. Canning, and that Lord Holland, a zealous supporter of the new government, had always been united in habits of very intimate intercourse with the Minister.

Lord Goderich, on the contrary, had not been adopted by the moderate Whigs as a leader; among the moderate Tories in his government, there were none who united the character of personal friends and political adherents; and although of the third and least numerous party, Mr. Herries had been recommended by him to the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, it is clear from subsequent events, that Mr. Herries did not feel himself in any degree bound to his Lordship as his political chief. Lord Goderich was therefore placed at the head of a government composed of parties imperfectly united, and over any or all of which he had decidedly no previous personal influence. Mr. Canning possessing that influence, might have kept down the mutual jealousies of Whigs and Tories; but even with all the advantages which he individually had, the first vacancy in a Cabinet office would probably have led to a struggle for filling it up, that might have destroyed the Ministry. We can, therefore, easily imagine, that Lord Goderich, in obeying his late Majesty's commands, must have yielded rather to a sense of duty, than to the dictates of ambition. It is not our intention, however, nor does it fall under the scope of this memoir, to examine the particular events that produced the dissolution of his administration, and we shall therefore conclude our remarks on this period, by stating, that in his public measures there was no departure from the principles of foreign or domestic policy by which Mr. Canning had been regulated, or from any which he had himself professed or adopted as the rule of his own conduct.

Having thus briefly noticed Lord Goderich's conduct as one of the king's servants, it only remains for us to observe, that he appears in no degree to have given up his interest in public matters, since he has ceased to hold a public situation. He is constant in his attendance upon the House of Lords, and shares in most of its important debates. During the last session particularly, he took a very active part; and besides the attention which he paid to the great questions of our foreign policy as they arose in debate, he took more opportunities than one of bringing under the consideration of the House, important matters of trade, currency, and finance, with which his previous duties had made him conversant, and upon the right understanding of which so many and such high interests materially depend.

To conclude: In preparing this memoir, we have been led to enter more minutely into a public life of some twenty years, than could be expected from us; but the opinions and policy of a statesman who has taken so distinguished a part in all the great questions on which the prosperity of the country depends, is well worthy of attention both for the past and future.—Whether we may see Lord Goderich in office, or out, we must contemplate him as an individual endeared to the country by his consistency and integrity.

We will not speak of his enlarged and liberal views, of his power of application to business, of his great practical ability—but we will say, that if sterling honesty and purity of principle can entitle a man to the confidence of a nation, Lord Goderich justly enjoys that confidence, and may be looked to as a patriot and friend, whatever betides us in these fickle times.



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RICHARD PORSON, M.A.

R. Porson

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RICHARD PORSON, M.A.

THE life of even the most eminent scholar offers little of diversity for the pen of the biographer. RICHARD PORSON, the most distinguished Grecian of the age, lived and died, though certainly not without experiencing a sufficient portion of those vicissitudes which touch the humblest private sphere, yet without making any figure in the great events which affected the course of far less gifted men, in the general agitation of their country and of the world. A revolution in modern Greece produced no such effect upon his pursuits, as the discovery of a new reading in the Hecuba of an ancient Greek dramatist; and a period of wars, and rumours of wars, was passed in much of the tranquillity of academic groves and learned devotion. Well might Dyer say, in his "Poet's Tale," (1797,)

> Porson in Grecian lore you reckon great;
> Will Porson e'er be Minister of State?

Richard Porson was born on Christmas-day, 1759, being the eldest of three sons and one daughter, the children of Huggin Porson, the worthy and sensible Parish Clerk of East Ruston, in Norfolk. His father appears to have had a just appreciation of the value of early tuition; and, indeed, to have anticipated by his sagacity what have since been considered improvements of later dates. He carefully and wisely cultivated the intellect of his children; and, by his system of instruction, laid the sure foundations of those profound acquirements which afterwards contributed to the fame of his first-born. Richard was taught by him all the common rules of arithmetic without the aid of slate or pencil, paper or pen; so that, previous to his ninth year he was advanced to the cube root, by the force of mind and memory alone. By this means his faculties were admirably disciplined; and as the necessity of retaining what he had acquired, led to the constant exercise of his powers of recollection, the basis was thus laid of that extraordinary talent which he possessed to the end of his days. But, useful and wonderful as was this quality, it was not the only good graft implanted by his mode of education. The child was brought to think closely, to apply intensely to any given subject, to arrange ideas, and reduce them to order; and thus to solve, as it were at a glance, problems and questions so difficult, that persons of understanding were obliged to resort to long calculations for their exposition, *q. e. d.*

But, even at an earlier age, means no less beneficial and efficacious were employed in instructing Richard. He was taught to read and write simultaneously, much upon the principle of the celebrated Madras system introduced by Dr. Bell, and now so widely adopted. With chalk upon a board, or with his finger in sand, he was made to trace the letters, and to understand them, as soon as he could give utterance to their names. All children are imitative, and the disposition is strengthened and increased by setting them to work in this fashion; no wonder, then, that with such an organization and capacity as young Porson was endowed with, he should have been so delighted with his new art as to practise it continually. We are informed, that every wall in his father's house, and every spot accessible to his eye and hand, were covered with inscriptions, executed in the neatest manner, and in characters finely delineated—qualifications which he ever after retained, as his beautiful manuscripts very amply testify. His first schoolmaster, too, happened to be an excellent teacher of writing, which confirmed this habit: his name was Summers, a plain but intelligent individual, to whom Richard, at the age of nine years, was sent for that education which the village school afforded—English reading, arithmetic, the rudiments of Latin, in which he was well grounded, and penmanship. It has, indeed, been regretted by several of his friends, that Porson should have imbibed so powerful a predilection for copying, which, in their opinion, often diverted him from original composition, and, in reality, influenced his whole literary career, and made him an annotator rather than a distinct and eminent author. Be this as it may, although we doubt that the mere habit of writing a fine hand could alter the bent of disposition, certain it is that his notations, not only on his own books and MSS., but in Dr. Burney's library, purchased for the British Museum, are as exquisite in form, and as abundant in quantity, as they are curious and important in matter.

With the village teacher, Mr. Summers, who was, however, a respectable scholar, Richard continued three years; during which time his father pursued his primary plan for exercising his memory, by causing him daily to repeat his lessons and tasks to him at home, exactly as he had learnt them, and without any transposition or confusion. Thus cultivated, the boy, at twelve years old, had attracted much notice; and, among others, that of the Reverend Mr. Hewitt, then engaged in educating his own children, who was struck by his invincible propensity to study, and the remarkable tenacity with which he retained all that he had acquired. This gentleman accordingly took Richard and his younger brother Thomas under his charge, and instructed them in the classics. Both made rapid improvement; but the progress of Richard is represented as astonishing. He was looked upon as a prodigy, and strangers became deeply interested in his future prospects. Among these, Mr. Norris, a wealthy and benevolent neighbour, was the most active. He submitted the abilities of Richard to a very severe test, and being satisfied of their extent and extraordinary nature, liberally sent him to Eton, in the month of August, 1774.

It is a pleasant thing to contemplate the precocious genius of an obscure country lad, thus challenging the admiration and the kindness of the opulent and good ; and paving the way to the highest honors which can reward literary exertions and transmit an immortal name to the latest posterity. Porson was worthy of the selection. At Eton he displayed great superiority of intellect. His biographers describe him as devouring learning, as if increase of appetite "did grow with what it fed on ;" and exhibiting resources of application beyond all comparison. It is, perhaps, the vice of memoir writing, to heighten and exaggerate the merits of their subjects; and, confessedly a youth of incomparably more than common promise, as Porson at this time was, we suspect that something of colouring has been laid on this portion of his life. Dr. Goodall, whose evidence is not to be impeached, allows the possession of great faculties to his pupil; yet he says, that on coming to Eton he knew but little of prosody, and had made comparatively small progress in Greek; that his general scholarship was of a first-rate order, but that in school exercises he was surpassed by several of his contemporaries, and, among others, by the Marquis of Wellesley. Dr. Goodall hence concludes, that while at Eton he was not to be considered the vastly superior person which he made himself at Cambridge; though eminently gifted with qualities to sanction the most exalted expectations. And this must have been the case, for the upper boys adopted him into their society; and he was their companion, friend, and helper. In their learned difficulties he was their oracle, and in their frolics their hearty associate. The serious labours of the school, and the playful revels of the hours of relaxation, seem to have been alike congenial to him; and ere yet unclouded by the loss of friends, by cares, or by disappointments, he might esteem this the golden and happy period of his existence. Indeed, he always cast a retrospect upon it with fervent delight. The drama called "Out of the Frying Pan into the Fire," which he wrote for exhibition in their long chamber, he was wont to repeat with exulting emotions; nor was there a theme so obviously dear to his heart, as the remembrance and description of this halcyon era, the sports in which he partook, and the compositions, or grave or gay, which he contributed to the general stock of young competition and enjoyments.

But the cloud came o'er the spirit of this dream. Even so early in life his constitution was seriously impaired by an imposthume upon the lungs, and his malady was aggravated by the lamented death of his patron, Mr. Norris. The imposthume was removed without the access of fatal consumption, as was apprehended; but his mind was afflicted by the loss of his patron, and his frame debilitated by the effects of his dangerous disorder. Through the assistance of some generous friends, he was, however, enabled still to pursue his studies at Eton; a fund being raised for that purpose, and also to provide for his maintenance at Cambridge. We believe Sir George Baker was at the head of this laudable design, as treasurer; but Bishop Bagott, Dr. Poynter, Dr. Hammond, Prebendary of Norwich, and particularly Mrs. Mary Turner, were its principal supporters; and the subscription was afterwards swelled by several of his Etonian contemporaries. It sufficed to afford Mr. Porson an annual stipend throughout his life; and, some years after his death, his executors, Mr. Banks and Dr. Burney, found a balance of £400 Navy five per Cents unappropriated, which they applied to the foundation of an annual prize, of a book or books, to the amount of the interest, for the best translations, into Greek verse, of passages from Shakspeare, Ben Jonson, Beaumont and Fletcher, and Massinger.

From Eton, it might be expected that Porson would go to King's College; but this hope was disappointed, and towards the close of 1777 he entered of Trinity College, Cambridge, whither his great reputation had preceded him. He was received as a favoured son, and regarded as a youth of extraordinary endowments, which were calculated to reflect lustre upon the seat of his education. No estimate could be more fully realized. In every branch of study to which he applied himself, he outstripped all rivalry, and attained the utmost excellence. It is true, that his first dry-nurse, mathematics, was not courted by him to any remarkable issue; for the prospect of a Craven scholarship (which, however, did not become vacant till long after) turned him to the classics, and to these he applied with such surprising vigour and mastery, that he speedily shone forth as one of the most learned and accomplished, if not *the* most learned and accomplished, scholar in Europe. As a thing of course, he got the medal in 1781; was elected a Fellow; and, in 1785, took his degree of M. A.

Time rolled on, but not unoccupied, till the period when he must either, according to the statutes of the University, make his election of the Church as a profession for life, or resign his fellowship. He had, in the interim, furnished some notes for a Cambridge edition of Xenophon's Anabasis (1785); and the year approached that was to fix his future fate. It cost him, we are told, a long and painful struggle to abandon a certain for a precarious course of existence; but as we gather from some of his writings, and particularly from his Letter to Archdeacon Travis, his reason and his principles were so cogent against subscribing to the Articles, as to prevail over his worldly interests, and he finally determined to relinquish the Church, and trust to his literary toils for honorable independence. It is not to be inferred from this decision, though by it, and his Letters to Travis, he forfeited the friendship of Mr. Turner, who viewed the Letters as a calumnious attack on Christianity, that Porson was inimical to the religion and religious establishment of the country; on the contrary, he ever professed a profound respect for the one, and never in his gayest moments expressed the slightest disrespect for the other. He was neither with the infidel nor the scoffer, nor did the profundity of his research teach him to be a caviller and a sceptic. Endowed with liberal sentiments, his strong sense guided him in a rational road, and he perceived, that to change was not always to amend, and that, in attempting to remove imperfections, though acknowledged to exist, still greater evils might be introduced, by the most plausible and beautiful theories.

At the epoch of his Collegiate life which we have now reached, it is stated that the disingenuousness of an individual prevented Porson from obtaining a lay fellowship, which would have smoothed his way, and afforded him ease and comfort; as it was, he was thrown (indignant at such treatment, and looking forward with bitterness and anguish) upon the stormy and doubtful sea of literature; a noble vessel, to be sure, but poorly provided with his Greek Professorship of forty pounds a year, to which he was soon after elected, and the interest of the fund already alluded to. But a man of his talents, whose boyhood and early youth had secured him friends, was not likely to be deserted at this trying crisis, when he had enlarged the boundaries of his fame, and deserved farther favour by his conduct. On the contrary, he was cheered by sympathy and assistance; and though without a profession, and with an enfeebled constitution, his prospects were neither dark nor gloomy. In 1788-9 the Gentleman's Magazine (that valuable repository of curious and useful intelligence, now on the eve of completing the hundredth year of its periodical publication) contained the Travis correspondence; and, in 1790, a small octavo gave us, in a separate form, the celebrated "Letters to Archdeacon Travis, in answer to his Defence of the Three Heavenly Witnesses; 1 John v. 7." In the same year he supplied short Notes on "Emendationes in Suidam et Hesychium," printed at the Clarendon Press, Oxford: all these productions tended to augment his fame as a most acute and skilful critic, and enlightened philologist.

His chief attention was now demanded by the duties of the Greek Professorship, to which he had been appointed, in a distinguished manner, as the successor of Mr. William Cooke. He was not a man to enter regardlessly upon this new undertaking, for which he was so strikingly qualified, and in which he felt much must be anticipated from his preceding character. He prepared himself to give lectures annually, not merely on Greek literature, but on philology in general—the origin, the affinities, and the differences of languages; and it must ever be a subject of deep regret, that he was prevented from carrying this plan into execution. What were the particular rules or customs which stood in his way, it is not worth while to inquire; suffice it to say, that the rooms in the College necessary for his purpose were not assigned to him, that his wishes were counteracted, and that the world thus lost, perhaps the most interesting and important series of elucidations that any individual could ever bestow upon this most difficult yet most attractive investigation.

The professor, thus frustrated, had to direct his thoughts to other works; and the first of which we are aware, was one rather of diligence and drudgery, than of a kind to exalt his name. We speak of the superb edition of Heyne's Virgil, in four volumes, octavo, 1793, of which he corrected the press, and for which he wrote the preface. In 1794, his Æschylus, two volumes, octavo, was published, and with great eclat.

But in following the events of his life in regular rotation, we have to leave the literary for the domestic train. In November, 1795, Mr. Porson married Mrs. Lunan, a sister of Mr. Perry, the well-known Editor of the Morning Chronicle. This match was a source of considerable dissatisfaction,—the courtship was short, and partook of some singularities, at which Mr. Perry was provoked; but a reconciliation was soon effected, in a way no less peculiar, and the parties ever after continued on terms of brotherly regard and friendly intercourse. It was the professor's misfortune, however, to enjoy but a brief span of matrimonial happiness; for his wife died on the 12th of April, 1796, and again left him a solitary being in the circle of society. Her loss seems to have produced a sensible effect upon his habits and health; from that period he was afflicted with a spasmodic asthma, so continually recurring, and so distressing, that it often interrupted his learned pursuits, and obliged him to seek relaxation in company. He had nevertheless, by incessant and minute application, copied the faint and almost obliterated Lexicon of Photius, lent to him from the Library of Trinity College; and after ten months' labour restored the text of that valuable work. Like Newton, he was doomed to see his manuscript destroyed; and like Newton, he bore the calamity most philosophically. The Photius was accidentally burnt at the house of Mr. Perry, at Merton; and the rare original was only saved by being always carried about the person of the professor, who, viewing the loan as a sacred trust, resorted to this means for its perfect security. From it a second copy was made, which is still extant, being left in a state of readiness for the press, at the time of the writer's death. This, together with other treasures of Greek letters, not yet rescued from his widely spread notes, will, we trust, be given to the learned world, when a spirit for the encouragement of more solid literature than now prevails, shall spring up and be cherished in the British Empire. In addition to the productions hitherto mentioned, we may here complete the list of Mr. Porson's works, both during his life-time, and in posthumous publication. Hecuba of Euripides, 1797; 2nd edition, in 1802, with a Supplement to the Preface, and copious additions to the Notes: Orestes, in 1798; Phœnissæ, in 1799; and Medea, in 1801. The posthumous publications are, Adversaria; a Isac. Henr. Monk et Car. Jac. Blomfield, Cambridge, 1812; and Tracts and Miscellaneous Criticisms of the late R. Porson, Esq., collected and arranged by the Rev. Thomas Kidd, London, 1815; and both in octavo.

It will be seen from this catalogue, that there was some cause for lamenting the paucity of Porson's original classical performances; but at the same time it must be allowed, that what he did, bore the stamp of perfection. His consummate skill in amending corruptions, with which the errors of transcribers had infected the noblest Greek authors, was confessed throughout Europe; and his restorations were almost universally received as indubitable. Nor were his canons of criticism less respected; and indeed there is hardly a point which he took up, or a controversy into which he entered, that he did not leave, as it were, fixed for ever in its true light. To differ from him was no safe task, for he could be as severe as he was discriminating, and as terrible as he was learned.

On the establishment of the London Institution, the managers did credit to themselves, and gave weight to their concern, by selecting a person so justly celebrated, to be their Librarian. This brought him to a local habitation in London; apartments being allotted to him in the mansion of the Institution, in the Old Jewry. Here, being nearly as much secluded as in the retirement of Cambridge, he devoted himself much to reading and study. But his hours were not all so occupied, for he was also fond of convivial life; and his almost constant evening resort was the Cider Cellar in Maiden Lane, where he surrendered himself to the conversation of a few boon companions, and often forgot both prudent reserve, and the progress of night. In a true memoir it cannot be hidden, that his motions at this period were very irregular, and his habits not such as the lovers of really intellectual and polite society could approve. He revelled, however, in unrestrained freedom; pouring out the matchless stores of his mind upon wondering, though not always very comprehensive hearers. From the earliest Greek author, to Shakspeare, (his supreme delight,) Junius, and the Mayor of Garratt, he had all "by heart;" and it seemed no matter whether the writers were famous or obscure, Porson was as intimately acquainted with them, as if he had never perused more than a single volume, which he had committed to memory. Most extraordinary indeed were his powers in this way; and whether in half lines of almost forgotten bards, or in whole pages and books of sages and philosophers, he was equally at home, and ready to afford immediate illustrations. It was a rich treat to listen to him in his best moods: though not eloquent, but, on the contrary, often perplexed and embarrassed, there was nothing pedantic, and his resources were astonishing—inexhaustible. With his familiars, too, he was not merely pleasant, but playful and sparkling. Many a witty joke, it is true, fell on unconscious ears, for they were generally deeply learned in their allusions, and in a learned tongue. But he was a merry mate, and not averse to jest and frolic even in native English and with homely comrades. Among the *jeux d'esprits* attributed to his pen, but erroneously, was the popular Devil's Walk,--a production of Coleridge's, probably with some verse or small portion by Southey; but the following, which is also ascribed to Porson, may give some idea of his sportive vein:

TO NOTHING.

Mysterious Nothing! how shall I define
  Thy shapeless, baseless, placeless emptiness?
Nor form nor colour, sound nor size, are thine;
  Nor words nor figures can thy void express.
But, though we cannot thee to aught compare,
  To thee a thousand things may likened be;
And, though thou art with nobody, no where,
  Yet half mankind devote themselves to thee.

How many books thy history contain!
  How many heads thy mighty plans pursue!
What labouring hands thy portion only gain!
  What busy men thy only doings do!
To thee, the great, the proud, the giddy bend,
And, like my Sonnet, all in Nothing end.

There was another poem, which, we fear we must acknowledge, was from the Professor's hand; a paraphrase of Pope's Eloisa, and of which the less that is known the better, as it greatly improved upon the impurity and licentiousness of the original most poetical, but ill-chosen theme.

Towards the close of his life Mr. Porson suffered dreadfully from asthma; insomuch that for many nights and days he could not endure a recumbent posture, and was frequently obliged to abstain from food for periods as long as nature could support the privation. It was one of his rules, that starving was more efficacious than physic; and to the latter he always entertained an inveterate repugnance. The medical profession was in no esteem with him; he held it to be folly and quackery; and though he lived on terms of intimacy with several of its leading ornaments, he never could be induced to seek their assistance for the maladies which assailed him.

After an intermittent fever, by which he was much weakened, this unfortunate gentleman, on Monday, the 19th of September, 1808, fell down in the Strand, while walking in apparent convalescence. He was struck with epilepsy, and carried in a state of insensibility to St. Martin's workhouse, his person being unknown to those who witnessed the accident, and no address being found upon him to lead to his recognition. A paragraph, however, appeared in a newspaper, describing the event, and mentioning that the individual, thus found nameless and helpless, had a number of notes in the Greek language in his pocket, which led a gentleman connected with the London Institution to trace out the fact, and discover his principal on Tuesday morning under the parochial care to which he had been conveyed on the preceding day. By ten o'clock he was removed to the Old Jewry, where he took some tea, but continued to talk incoherently on a multitude of topics for several hours. During an interval of comparative composure his surrounding friends prevailed upon him, though with some reluctance, to make his will; and about three o'clock he was able to walk out. He directed his path towards Cole's Coffee House, near the Royal Exchange, where he used frequently to dine, but which place he almost immediately left, and soon attracted a crowd, by the eccentric way in which he gazed at the recently repaired vane and clock of the Royal Exchange. In this situation a porter belonging to the Institution found him, and he was taken back to Cole's, where he swallowed two glasses of wine, and instantly relapsed into another paroxysm, accompanied by insensibility. It was now apparent that his disorder was mortal: he was reconveyed to the Old Jewry, and though tended with all the care and skill which several distinguished physicians could bestow, only lingered till Sunday the 25th, when he expired.

As many rumours were afloat respecting the cause and circumstances of his death, it was deemed advisable to have the body opened; and the appearances justified no other opinion than that his decease was a natural consequence of the illness by which he was attacked. His scull, about the thickness of which there were also some ridiculous fancies abroad, was discovered to be thinner than usual,* and of a hard consistence.

On the 3d of October, the body of this distinguished scholar was borne in procession from the London Institution, and on the following day reached Trinity College, Cambridge; where it was received with solemn ceremony, and lay some time in state. Epitaphs, written by friends and students, in Greek and in English verse, were strewed upon the pall; and the funeral was attended by the heads of houses, and other eminent persons, in their full academical habits. The whole scene was grand and affecting; for Porson was not only admired as a learned honor to his Alma Mater, but beloved as a man by many of those who paid these last respects to his remains. In the Chapel of Trinity, the Bishop of Bristol (Master of the College) performed the religious service in a manner so pathetic, as to steep the hearers in tears; and the mournful effect was increased by the singing of anthems, and the deep tones of the sonorous organ. The corpse was consigned to the grave; and at the early age of forty-nine years the world lost one of the brightest lights of classical literature which has shone upon our generation. At a subsequent period a fine bust by Chantrey and a tablet were erected to his memory in the chapel, upon which is the following simple inscription:

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* With reference to these absurdities, we may mention, that when manipulated by Dr. Spurzheim, it is said some one observed, that the phrenologist's theory on Porson's head was utterly wrong, as, instead of being liable to the declared imperfections in a thick scull, he was the most acute and erudite philologist of the age; which objection the operator triumphantly surmounted by remarking, that whatever got into such a head could not by possibility be gotten out again!

RICARDUS PORSON,
NAT. VIII. KAL. JAN. A. D. MDCCLIX.
A. B. ET COLL. S.S. TRIN. SOC.
MDCCLXXXI.
A. M. MDCCLXXXV.
OB. VII. KAL. OCT. MDCCCVIII.
P.
J. C. BANKS—CAROLUS BURNEY.*

In the chair of Greek Professor, Mr. Porson was succeeded by James Henry Monk, who was also one of the editors of the "Ricardi Porsoni Adversaria:" and Mr. Savage, of the London Institution, published a faithful account of the last six days of his life, in a periodical called the Librarian, which corrected the numerous idle stories and misrepresentations with which the press, as usual, teemed on the occasion.

Of the family of Porson, with which after going to Eton he maintained little intercourse, Thomas, his brother and school companion, who kept a boarding school at Fakenham, died in 1792, without issue: Henry the youngest brother was a farmer in Essex, and at his death left three children. His sister, who survived him, was married to Mr. S. Hawes, a substantial brewer at Colchester, Norfolk, and the mother of five children. His father died in 1805, aged 74; and his mother many years previously, when little advanced beyond the prime of life.

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* Professor Porson's executors.

Our Portrait is, we believe, from the only likeness in existence. It bears evidence of truth, by preserving the strong indication which marked his countenance.

It is an extraordinary, but well-attested fact concerning him, (says Mr. Beloe in his Sexagenarian, thus corroborating what Porson told Dr. Goodall,) that the first book he ever read with attention was Chamber's Dictionary, which he fairly and regularly perused from beginning to end. He was always fond of algebra, and a very skilful algebraist. He taught himself the principles from this dictionary.

Porson (says the same writer, who knew him well) had a very lofty mind, and was tenacious of his proper dignity: where he was familiar and intimate, he was exceedingly condescending and good-natured. He was kind to children, and would often play with them. He was also fond of female society; and though too frequently negligent of his person, was of the most obliging manners and behaviour, and would read a play, or recite, or do any thing that was required. Yet there was often an inexplicable waywardness in his conduct.

His knowledge was most extensive. There are few languages with which he had not some acquaintance. But we must conclude; and we cannot do better than adopt the conclusion of Mr. Beloe's notice—" Whatever were his errors, his failings, and his infirmities, he was, as far as talent, learning, and intellectual distinction, are concerned, a great man. His loss will ever be deplored by those who intimately knew him; and the tenderest regret will, as long as life shall endure, be everlastingly excited, when memory brings to the view of him who writes this narrative, the instructive, interesting, and pleasing hours spent in his society."

Hunc unum plurimi consentiunt
Doctorum doctissimum fuisse
Ricardum Porsonum.

ΕΑΝ ΔΕ ΤΙ ΦΑΙΝΗΤΑΙ ΥΜΕΝ
ΠΡΟΣΘΕΙΝΑΙ Η ΑΦΕΛΑΙ
ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩΜΕΣ
ΕΡΡΩΣΤΕ.

Painted by T. Philips, R.A. Engraved by E. Scriven.

THE RT HONBLE GEORGE-JAMES-AGAR ELLIS, BARON DOVER, F.R.S. F.A.S.

Dover.

FISHER, SON & Co LONDON 1831

THE RIGHT HON.

GEORGE-JAMES WELBORE AGAR ELLIS,

BARON DOVER,

F.R.S. ETC. ETC.

INSTEAD of a Memoir, we ought to submit the following to our readers as a Preface to the Life of AGAR ELLIS; and when we view the public grace and usefulness of its commencement, we are sure the universal voice of the country will be with us, in wishing that it may be long and happy, and throughout, as heretofore, arduously devoted to the promotion of every thing that can advance the national improvement, prosperity, and glory.

Of the high lineage of Mr. Ellis, we gave a succinct detail in the biographical sketch of his father, Lord Clifden; our present task is, therefore, limited to a very brief account of the principal events that have marked his own career. These will be found to be connected with his parliamentary conduct, with his patronage of the fine arts, with his encouragement of designs and works of general utility, and with his literary productions: in all of which, we consider him to be, if not the most distinguished, certainly one of the most distinguished individuals of his age and station, which England has the good fortune to possess. Men of this stamp are invaluable. As a senator, moderate and enlightened, while at the same time firm and consistent, the best interests of the kingdom may safely be reposed in such keeping. Endowed with taste and discrimination, the arts which adorn humanity must flourish under the fostering spirit of such patronage. Patriotic in purpose, and liberal in purse; manufactures, inventions, and beneficial projects require only such friends, to mature their advantages. Gifted with high intelligence, a cultivated mind, and the love of letters; literature must be greatly indebted to the active labours and cordial co-operation of such as enjoy the rank and inclinations of an Agar Ellis. This may sound like eulogy; but is it not merited by the rare union of faculties and disposition which we have described? Move where we will in our vast metropolis, we meet with this Gentleman, yet young in years, at the head or in the heart of every plan which has for its object the amelioration of the people, or the honor of the state; and we gladly seize the opportunity of presenting his Portrait,* to hold up the original as a pattern to the aristocracy and wealth of the land.

Agar Ellis was born on the 14th of January, 1797, and in 1822 married Georgiana, second daughter of George, sixth and present Earl of Carlisle, by whom he has several children. At the general election in 1818, he was returned for the borough of Heytesbury; and at the age of twenty-one, took his seat in the Imperial Parliament, of which he continued to be an efficient member till his elevation to the peerage; seldom, indeed, taking a very conspicuous part in debates upon the great political questions which have been discussed; but, while he maintained his principles upon these in a way not to be misunderstood, applying himself with more congenial and prominent zeal to every subject which involved the cause of learning, the fine or useful arts, charities, and the improvement of the people. Thus, in 1824, when the sum of £57,000 was appropriated to the purchase of Mr. Angerstein's collection of pictures for the public, as the foundation of a National Gallery, it must be recorded to the lasting fame of Lord Dover, that he was the first person who suggested this illustrious design, and one of the most earnest and enlightened of its advocates, whose energy led to the adoption of the measure. Already have we seen this splendid establishment gathering strength, and growing in beauty with every year of its existence; and when future generations shall view its accumulated glories with British pride, we trust that some memorial will be there, to recall to their remembrance the individual to whom the debt of gratitude for their enjoyment and exultation is so largely due.

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* From the fine picture by T. Phillips, Esq., R.A.

The Quarterly Review, recently published, contains a very forcible essay on the decline of science in England. Science and the arts generally go hand in hand, in ascent or descent, and if we have the consolation to feel, that at the present epoch the latter have not fallen so much as the former, we ought to be sensible, that it is to men like Lord Dover we owe the obligation. The carping spirit and poor economy which too often interfere to mar such purposes, cannot be too much deprecated; for the true wealth of nations, which, even according to the most sordid means of calculation, depends for increase and effect upon the liberal encouragement of those things, which, though to a narrow policy they may seem to present no immediate prospect of profitable return, and to be merely the ornaments of life, yet in the end contribute most essentially to the happiness of individuals and the greatness of states.

With regard to his political course and sentiments, we cannot, perhaps, illustrate Lord Dover's opinions better, than by transcribing his own declaration of them in the debate on the Irish Forty-shilling Freeholders bill, March, 1829. "I seldom trespass on the indulgence of the House, (he said,) but I am anxious to explain, in as few words as possible, the reasons which induce me to vote for this wise measure. I can assure the House, that I am, in the strict sense of the word, a decided reformer.* I have voted, not only for particular motions of reform, but for general reform; and, as a reformer, I am ready to support this measure." In the same speech, he characterized the "Catholic emancipation," as "a great and healing measure of justice and concession:" from which it may be correctly inferred, that all his votes in the House of Commons have been on the popular side.

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* We ought, perhaps, to point particular attention to these words, "*decided reformer;*" because we remember, at the time, the speaker brought down the animadversions of a part of the press upon himself, in consequence of being misreported as having declared himself a radical reformer, which he never was, and never said he was. This blunder has been perpetuated in Barrow's Mirror of Parliament, and therefore more strongly challenges correction.

Reverting, however, to his patronage of the fine arts, we have to paint Lord Dover as the steady and generous friend to our native school. The judgment exhibited in the collection which adorns the walls of his mansion in Spring Gardens, proclaims the connoisseur as well as the amateur; and almost every picture is a gem, which one would be tempted to chuse as the best specimen of the artist extant, always to be referred to as a pleasing example of his style and execution. Among these, the celebrated composition of the Queen's Trial, by Hayter, is memorable as a historical document, and a gallery of distinguished portraits, such as has rarely been produced; while the works of Lawrence, Collins, Jackson, Leslie, Newton, and other eminent contemporaries, add to the treasures of this selection, no less distinguished by its uniform taste and feeling, than by the grace, beauty, and interest of its component parts.

In literary pursuits, similar discrimination and refinement have marked his Lordship's career. As an author, he has published, within a short time, "The True History of the State Prisoner, commonly called the Iron Mask, extracted from documents in the French Archives." "Historical Inquiries respecting the Character of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Lord Chancellor of England." "The Ellis' Correspondence," in two octavo volumes, and illustrating a remarkable period of the annals of England, from the letters of the Editor's family. Lord Dover also, in 1822, produced a Catalogue Raisonné of the principal pictures in Flanders and Holland; which was printed, but not published; and we have reason to know, that he is the writer of some able reviews, both in the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, as well as of articles in Magazines, Annuals, and other periodicals, which reflect great credit upon his fancy and talents. A History of Frederick the Great, of Prussia, is announced from his pen; and immediately expected.

In the separate works we have enumerated, the author has displayed much elegant literature, and an acute and critical mind. Following M. Delort, he has demonstrated almost beyond doubt, as far as circumstantial evidence can go, that the Iron Mask was Count Hercules Anthony Matthioli, a Bolognese by birth, and secretary of state to Charles III. Duke of Mantua. But whether this fact is acknowledged or not, there can be no question as to the ability with which Lord Dover has treated it. The Historical Inquiries appeared the year after the Iron Mask, namely 1828, and still farther elevated their author's reputation. His investigation of the character of Lord Clarendon is a well-written and clever volume; and it is curious to find that so new a view of the case should have received such considerable countenance since, by the publication of Lord Ashburnham's exposition of the conduct of Hyde towards his ancestor, the Jack Ashburnham of the unfortunate Charles I.

The Ellis' Correspondence is a performance of still greater historical value; which, while it interests the reader by its variety, throws a certain light upon many transactions that have exercised the ingenuity and research of preceding authors, without having been hitherto satisfactorily developed or explained. Altogether, we would repeat our remark upon these productions, that it is gratifying to find men of rank, notwithstanding the multitude of claims which public business presses upon them, devoting the hours of private relaxation to such ennobling labours, and raising for themselves a name that will last for ages, rather than indulging in those temporary allurements which so profusely court them from the quiet paths of assiduous study. When "the schoolmaster (to use a hackneyed phrase) is abroad," and when the toe of the peasant treads so nearly upon the heel of the courtier, it is advantageous for a country to see the foremost in the field of station and fortune, emulous of being also the foremost as ornaments and benefactors of society.

As we have confessed, at the outset, our wish that this might be considered as merely the Preface to a Life, we shall not enter into minute details of the many ways in which Lord Dover has proved himself to belong to this distinguished class.

Since nearly the foundation of the Royal Society of Literature, he has been a diligent and valuable member of the Council; warmly promoting the cause of the Institution, and, with it, the general cause of the highest orders of literature. We are aware that public bodies may not do all that is expected from them; but in the present instance, we know that much is done for the advantage of letters and of literary men. The common publishing system has degenerated into a very light and unimportant trade in books; a few volumes of travels being almost the only exception to trifling novels or periodical digests. At such a time, a Royal Society of Literature holds out the hope, that there is still one spot where great learning, sterling merit, and true genius may be appreciated and encouraged.

The National Repository is another of the excellent designs indebted to Lord Dover for cordial support, if not for actual being. It has not yet had time to produce the effects it is capable of producing; but we have no hesitation in saying, that it has already led to some very beneficial improvements, and that it is well calculated to become a most powerful coadjutor to aid our trade and commerce. Hospitals, markets, and indeed every other local or national object which may excite the humanity, or require the personal and pecuniary assistance, of the good citizen, are sure of an ardent friend in Lord Dover; and when we look upon the results of the few years he has spent as a public character, we are inclined to close as we began, with recommending him as a pattern to all his compeers. Let them go, and do likewise; and the whole nation will have reason to bless the occasion.

[A few alterations had become necessary in the foregoing Memoir, in consequence of Mr. Ellis having been raised to the peerage, by the title of Baron Dover, between the period at which it was written, and the date of this new edition of the National Portrait Gallery. It is with pleasure we record an instance of Royal discrimination, at once so laudably earned and awarded, and so happily in accordance with the sentiments we have ventured to express.—Ed.]

Painted by Sir Wm. Beechey, R.A.

Engraved by E. Scriven.

EDWARD DUKE OF KENT & STRATHEARN, K.G.-K.T.-K.St.P. &c &c

Kent and Strathearn.

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1830.

EDWARD

DUKE OF KENT & STRATHEARN,

K.G. K.T. K.St.P. ETC. ETC.

THE life of one born to an exalted station, yet not involving the charge of arduous duties, would seem at first to be one of those fortunate lots which are cast in pleasant places. The younger son of an English monarch, surrounded with luxury, and elevated by rank, appears to many an object of envy. It will be a useful lesson to the spirit of discontent, so inherent in our nature, to show the fallacy of such belief. The envy of any adventitious good, in which we are so ready to indulge, is usually as false in its conclusions, as it is erroneous in its premises. The repining of one situation is best answered by an exposure of the evils attendant on another. The advantages of mankind are more equally balanced than we ourselves are willing to admit: the truth of this assertion, the life of the Duke of Kent will strikingly illustrate.

EDWARD AUGUSTUS, the subject of our present sketch, and fourth son of George the IIId., was born Nov. 2, 1767. Destined for a military career, he was sent at the age of seventeen to Germany, where the severest and most minute discipline was enforced, without respect to youth or birth. The policy of this conduct was very questionable; as no habits possess the strength of those acquired in early life; and it could scarcely be considered desirable that an English Prince should imbibe his youthful impressions in a foreign country. The effect on the Duke of Kent was decidedly injurious. It required the experience of years to relax his strict ideas of martial observance, and of the overpowering importance of correct accoutrements; at seventeen his chief education was confined to the rigorous and unabated performance of the duties imposed by the drill and the parade.

It is an old saying, that those who are to command, ought first to learn how to obey. A good rule may, however, be carried too far, since a routine of tedious minutiæ must be calculated rather to narrow, than to enlarge the mind. Something more was to be expected and desired, than the mere formation of a skilful tactician. The Duke used to observe in after-life, "I never exacted more obedience than I had myself given; for when serving as a cadet, while the regiment on duty was discharged with the usual forms, I had to be dismissed from my place with a peculiar and distinct ceremony. Once this was omitted: while cold, weary, and in the most uneasy position, I was forgotten for more than four hours, when at last the commanding officer rode up, and apologized. Unless he had given the order I should have remained at my post, Sir, till I had sunk with fatigue."

The pecuniary difficulties which embarrassed so much of his after-life began at an early age. When in Hanover his allowances were intercepted, and the pocket-money allotted to him, a young man of nineteen, was considerably under a hundred a year; a sum far exceeded by the customary stipends of half the youths at Eton or Westminster. This was most acutely felt at Geneva, which he next visited, where he met many English noblemen of his age, and by whom inability to support youthful expense was considered meanness. On reaching his twenty-third year, he was recalled to England, where he held the rank of Colonel of the 70th foot; and ten days after, he was ordered to Gibraltar. This state of almost exile, it is well known, was severely felt by His Royal Highness.

He had now arrived at an age when it was natural for him to expect the same provision that had been made for his elder brothers. His own family, his early friendships, and his country presented all the attraction of affectionate intercourse; and it is much to be regretted, that he was not permitted to form associations in his native land; since an earlier acquaintance with British feelings and habits, would have counteracted the effects of German severity. This, however, was not permitted. He joined his regiment at Gibraltar, and in 1791 sailed with it for Quebec; from which place he went to the West Indies, under General Sir Charles, afterwards Lord Gray. This expedition against the French possessions was completely successful. The detached camp at La Coste was placed under the command of His Royal Highness; whose first display of gallantry was at the attack of Fort Royal, in Martinique, on which occasion he led the storming party. It was afterwards, in compliment to himself, called Fort Edward. He further distinguished himself at St. Lucie, and Guadaloupe; and during a course of active and perilous service, the home despatches gave him high and deserved praise, while his bravery and good conduct obtained repeated encomiums from the Commander-in-Chief.

Prince Edward having returned to North America, was soon after made Governor of Nova Scotia, and in 1796 he obtained the rank of Lieutenant-General. His health having been injured by an accident, arising from his horse falling under him, he repaired to England; where being called to the House of Lords in 1799, he was created Duke of Kent and Strathearn, and Earl of Dublin. After the lapse of a few weeks, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of all the forces in British America. Thither he repaired; and a mutual attachment having been formed between him and the people, as a mark of the approbation excited by his conduct, the Assembly unanimously voted him five hundred guineas for the purchase of a diamond star; but his constitution, weakened by sudden and violent changes of climate, was unable to resist a severe bilious attack.

In 1800, having solicited and obtained permission to revisit England; he was, soon after his arrival, nominated Colonel of the Royal Scots, which regiment he retained during his life. The Duke of Kent being made Governor of Gibraltar in 1803, the effects of a foreign and entirely military education were now to be manifested. Looking upon martial support as the chief security of a country, and thinking that the sole excellence of a soldier was his approximation to a machine, he at once prepared to enforce the utmost severity of German tactics. His own personal character must also be taken into consideration, as we rarely make allowances for faults to which we are ourselves disinclined.

The Duke of Kent was a military anchorite. He rose by day-break, and his habits were as abstemious as they were regular. Unaccustomed to indulgence in wine, a vice then too prevalent, he was himself a model of soldierly obedience, and his ideas of subordination were absolute. The state of Gibraltar was disgusting, even to those whose opinions were much more lax than those of His Royal Highness. The inhabitants were incessant in their complaints of the licentiousness of the soldiery, who were as unruly as they were slovenly; and the means of intoxication were so easily obtained, that its effects were visible in every street. The Duke of Kent immediately took the most vigorous measures for reforming these abuses. Many of the wine shops were directed to be closed; the troops ordered to remain in their barracks, and a regular system of inspection was organized:—so far his proceedings were as judicious as they were imperative. But his German education had imbued him with the most exaggerated ideas of the importance of minutiæ. Parade crowded upon parade, and review upon review. A man's accoutrements were of more consequence than his actions; even the hair was to be cut after the regulated standard, and changes and precision in uniform, not less expensive to the officers than vexatious to the men, were to be enforced. This reform of the garrison ended in mutiny; but it was put down by the exertions of several of the officers, and the opportune arrival of a detachment of artillery under Captain Dodd, whose services on the occasion were always kindly and gratefully acknowledged by his commander.

Much prejudice, however, prevailed against the Duke of Kent on his return to England; where the necessity for the reformation was lost in an exaggerated idea of its severity. It was forgotten, that the discipline he enforced was the same to which he had himself first submitted, and was, moreover, the system which from his earliest years he had been accustomed to consider a model of excellence.

Of the uselessness of such precise observances, and the advantage to an English soldier of being animated by a higher spirit than that of merely harsh discipline, no man could be more convinced than the Duke of Kent was in after years. As a proof of this, he was the first to set the practical example of substituting solitary confinement for corporal punishment in his regiment. We should also mention, that the inhabitants and civil officers of Gibraltar transmitted to His Royal Highness a thousand guineas for the purchase of a piece of plate and a diamond garter, as a mark of their respect for his conduct. From the late King, then Prince of Wales, he met with the most brotherly and affectionate support. In public, he made a point of accompanying him arm in arm to the Parade at the Horse Guards. This, though a slight act in itself, was of much import at the time, both in the feeling it evinced, and the countenance it gave.

In 1805 the Duke was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal. His talents were not however called into any active employment; for at this time an unfortunate jealousy occurred between him and the Duke of York. Of all dissensions it is most difficult to pronounce an opinion on those which arise between near connexions; there being a thousand small causes in domestic differences, of which the public can know nothing. Unhappily, the actions of those in exalted stations are always liable to the misrepresentations of envy, or to the insinuations of interest; and many will have their own little motives for sowing strife, from which they themselves hope to reap a profitable harvest. It was most unwarrantably hinted to the Duke of York, that his brother took advantage of the Parliamentary inquiry, to draw invidious parallels, and wished by censure of his conduct to attract praise and attention to himself. It need scarcely be stated, that this untrue and malicious charge was met with proper spirit, and put down by positive proof.

Though not employed in actual military service, the Duke of Kent was far from being an idle or inefficient member of society. He first introduced the most excellent plan of regimental schools, the merit of which proceeding will be properly appreciated in the present day; and was the useful and efficient patron of more than forty of those benevolent institutions, which do such honor to the British nation. The Duke of Kent, considering that those only deserve riches, who in their possession remember poverty, was not only liberal in his donations, but he gave also his time and his trouble. It needs but a moment's reflection on the influence of example in high rank, to see the advantage of such patronage. Many a speech in our legislative assemblies has not half the beneficial effect of one from the royal or noble advocate, who takes the chair to support the appeal of the unfortunate, and aid with his eloquence and his example the cause of charity. The wants of the many are only to be relieved by the assistance of the many, and that assistance is only to be obtained by drawing public attention to the good work in hand. In all these respects the conduct of the Duke of Kent merits the highest praise. Simple yet dignified in his manner, ready and impressive in speech, the eloquence which he possessed found at these meetings a useful and honorable field.

The ensuing years of his residence in England, were harassed by pecuniary difficulties; he having reached his thirty-second year before he obtained a settled income, and then £12,000 per annum was inadequate to meet the necessities of his station, and the demands of his creditors. We talk of the allowances to be made for the temptations to which the young and high-born are exposed; but in reality these allowances are never made.

Moreover, the policy which kept the Duke's income unascertained for so long a period, appears to have been at least ill judged; since uncertainty induces indefinite reliance, hope takes the place of calculation, and the knowledge of one difficulty is too apt to occasion recklessness towards others. The man who might have lived within a moderate income is yet likely to exceed the bounds of expectancy. Economy is one of those virtues whose effects are invaluable, whether it regards ourselves or others; invaluable too for the moral respectability which is its reward. But economy is more likely to be taught by a fixed income, than by supplies raised on expectations. We cannot but consider the immense credit given by tradespeople as most hurtful in its influence; the purchaser being led on in the first instance by the apparently easy compliance with his wishes, and startled in the second by the exorbitant reckoning entailed by their gratification. The creditor has his avarice awakened by the hope of enormous profits; payment becomes a species of speculation; and on the deteriorating influence of a gambling spirit in matters of business, we need not enlarge.

The princes of the blood have much of appearance to support, many inevitable expenses to meet, many who look to them for patronage to sustain, and many charitable demands which they are expected to answer. An ample income ought to be allotted for these claims; while strong principles of economy, the character it will give, and the moral and individual advantages that result from its observance, cannot be too strictly impressed on their minds. This was not the case with the Duke of Kent: his income was left unsettled; no outfit of plate, furniture, carriages, &c., was provided for his entrance into life; and a singular series of misfortunes during his military career, continually destroyed the property obtained on credit: 1. His Royal Highness' equipment was lost in Lake Champlain; 2. by the capture of the Antelope packet; 3. by the capture of the Tankerville packet. 4. by the capture of the Recovery transport; 5. by the plunder of the Diamond packet.

A circumstance much to the credit of His Royal Highness, may be here mentioned; namely, that the reforms at Gibraltar were enforced at the expense of his own interest. On his departure, the demand for an outfit was refused, on the plea of the lucrative nature of the situation; the fees from the numerous wine-houses having under other governors amounted to from fourteen to twenty thousand pounds. The resolute suppression of these houses by the Duke reduced this profitable branch of his income to one-sixth of its former amount. Many a violent advocate of economy would have passed over, in silence, irregularities so advantageous to himself. Long negociations respecting the embarrassed state of his affairs had taken place between the Duke and Mr. Pitt, but the promises made by that minister, (promises he was the last man to have made without seeing their necessity,) were not fulfilled by his successor.

The Duke of Kent now used every possible effort to meet the demands upon his funds. A present of twenty thousand pounds from his Father had some time previously been applied to liquidate his debts; and in 1807 he conveyed one-half of his income to trustees, for the purpose of paying off his encumbrances, at the same time narrowing his expenses, and reducing his establishment. In addition to these, his wines were sold, his plate mortgaged, and his life insured. Still the claims of his creditors were most pressing, many of whom being small tradespeople suffered much from the delay of payment. It is on this class of people that a non-fulfilment of engagements presses most heavily: the claimants of small sums are usually those who can least afford to wait. Finally, the Duke of Kent resolved on quitting Kensington Palace, where he had for some years held apartments, and making over his income to a committee of respectable persons, in order to pay off his debts within a limited period.

To reduce his expenditure within the narrowest practicable bounds, and to enforce a degree of retrenchment impossible in England, in 1816 he went to Brussels; where, renting a house from an English officer for three hundred pounds a year, he lived in the utmost retirement and at the smallest expense. His chief amusement was the theatre, for which he inherited his Father's predilection. He also made several excursions into Germany, and repeatedly visited different branches of his family. It was during one of these visits that he saw and admired the lady afterwards his consort.

The lamented death of the Princess Charlotte having left all the royal brothers childless, a failure of the succession was to be apprehended; the King therefore expressed his desire for the younger branches of the family to marry, and, at the earnest wish of his mother, the Duke of Kent addressed the Princess Vitoria-Maria-Louisa, youngest daughter of the late Duke of Saxe-Cobourg, to whom he was soon after united. At the early age of sixteen, family interests had occasioned her union with the hereditary Prince of Liningen, by whom she had two children, the present reigning prince of Liningen, and Feodore lately married to Prince Hohenlohe of Lindenberg. Having been a widow for several years, she was united to the Duke of Kent in 1818; first at her Father's court by the Lutheran rites, and afterwards at Kew, according to the ceremonials of the Church of England. By this second marriage she forfeited part of her dowry.

All the younger branches of our Royal Family appear to have been most fortunate in their matrimonial alliances. The Duke of Kent's was no exception. United and domestic in their habits, the royal couple concurred in the general example given by the other members of their illustrious family. We may be permitted to add, that the affection, and propriety of conduct now displayed from England's highest station, its throne—could never exert an influence more powerful or valuable than it does at this present and critical period. We apply the words of the Psalmist to no vain use when we say, The people of Great Britain may truly "rejoice in their King." But to return to the subject of our memoir.

The happiness of the royal pair was for a time overcast by the death of their first child, a daughter. Immediately after this occurrence, the Duke of Kent's affairs still requiring the strictest economy, they returned to the continent, and settled at

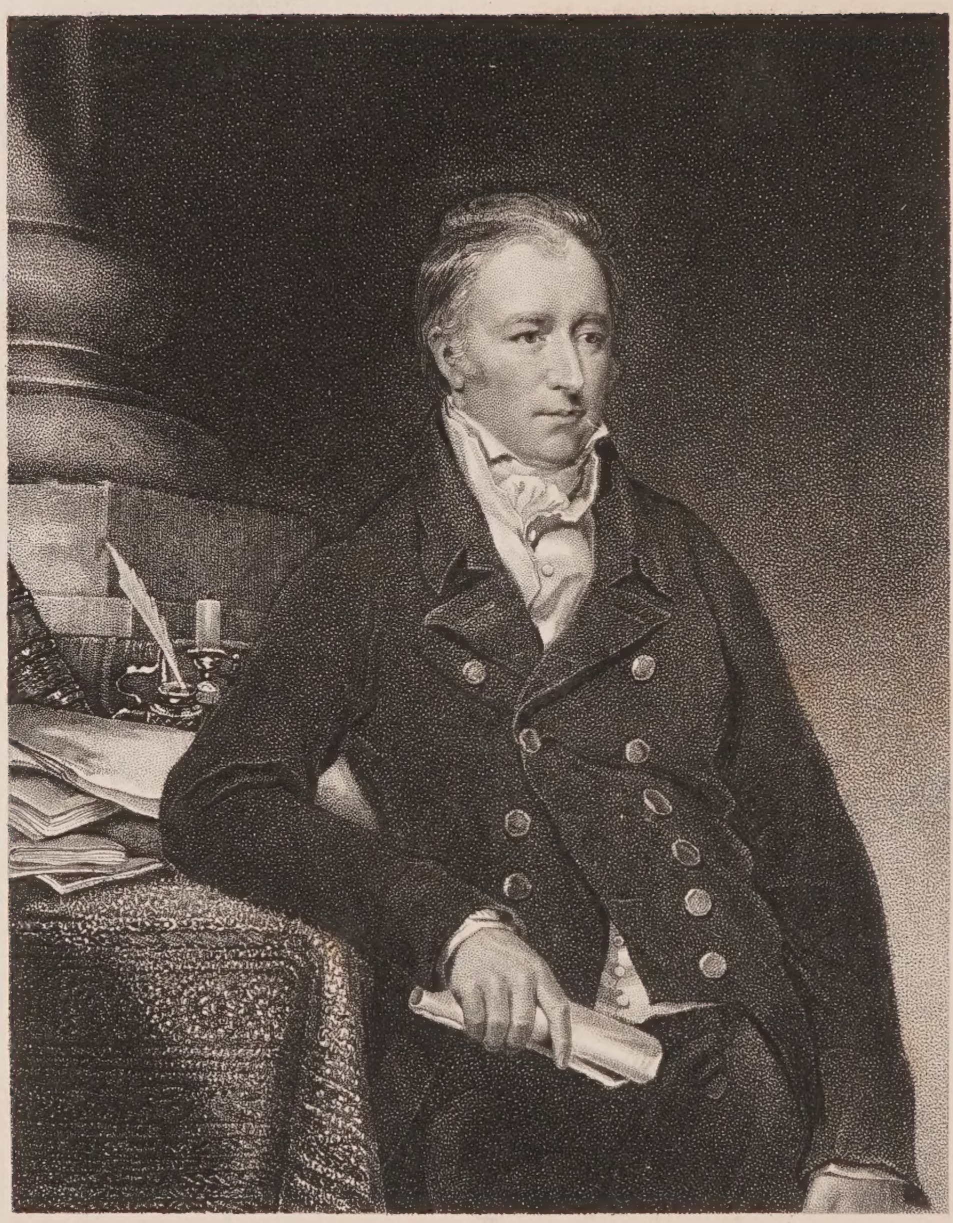
Amorbach, the former residence of the Duchess while regent of the principality, and guardian of her son. Their intended sojourn was shortened by her situation, the Duke naturally desiring that his expected child should be born in England. Great additional expense was incurred by this removal to Kensington Palace, where, in 1819, the Duchess gave birth to another daughter, Alexandrina Victoria, now presumptive heir to the British Crown. Report speaks of her as an amiable, intelligent and accomplished Princess; pretty and lady-like in her appearance, she certainly is. We, in common with the whole nation, can only hope she will prove worthy of the care and affection of her mother, who has devoted herself to her education.

The Duchess of Kent recovering but slowly from her confinement, it was resolved to try the pure and mild air of Devonshire. Accordingly the royal pair prepared to pass the winter at Sidmouth, and the effects of this change were most beneficial to Her Royal Highness. Their domestic happiness was, however, destined to be but transitory. Returning home with wet feet, the Duke of Kent, disregarding the advice of his attendants, delayed changing his damp boots. He loitered about, giving various orders; and the nurse passing the hall with the princess, he took the infant from her, and remained playing with and caressing the royal babe, so soon to be an orphan. Fever came on rapidly; alarming symptoms grew fatal; the Duchess scarcely left his side; and he expired in her arms. This melancholy event took place on Sunday, January 23, 1820; in the fifty-third year of his age. A noble specimen of a fine family, in his person he was tall and athletic, while his air was dignified and commanding. His features were expressive; he had peculiarly piercing eyes, and a high and ample forehead, which became bald in early life. Like most of his royal race, he possessed the charm of manner, and to the petitioner for his assistance he was uniformly kind and gracious.

His habits were singularly methodical. He rose early all the year round; and during the winter nights a man-servant, who slept in the day-time, was appointed to attend his fire: at six he took coffee, and the morning was invariably devoted to business. This regularity accounts for its uncommon despatch; it being well known that H. R. H. never suffered a letter to remain unanswered longer than a day: from the general to the soldier, all were certain of their reply. His household was regulated with the precision of a machine; every morning a bill of yesterday's expenditure was brought before him; the chief servants presented their bills; and the various expenses were adjusted with the most minute attention, from the food and the wine, down to the very condiments, such as pepper, salt, &c. The Duke's talents were great; he had a ready perception, and a most excellent memory. He was charitable, even to a fault; and to this day his loss is severely felt by the many institutions to which he was so invaluable a patron and friend. His speeches at many of these meetings were clear, graceful, and impressive, and showed what his eloquence would have been in a wider field.

His tastes were magnificent, in building and furnishing: the rooms at Kensington palace were crowded with splendid articles. His houses at Ealing and Knightsbridge were also fitted up in the most exquisite manner, and the arrangements of the grounds at Castlebar, (laid out in the most perfect style,) were executed under his own inspection.

With regard to the unpopular period of the Duke's life, in consequence of his government at Gibraltar—the education he had received, and the circumstances in which he was placed, may at least suspend the balance in his favour. The reform which proceeds from authority is never popular. The wretched state of Gibraltar required vigorous measures, and it was not to be expected that a licentious soldiery would like the curb that restrained their excesses. Neither should it be forgotten, that the Duke of Kent gave up a large portion of his income to effect this most desirable reformation. His strict and cautious attention to military minutiæ, were entirely the result of his German education. An English Prince ought to imbibe English feelings. The change effected in his opinions in after-life, were equally honorable to the energy and candour of his nature. It is difficult enough to alter the opinions of others; it is much more difficult to alter our own. All the earlier part of the Duke of Kent's life was passed in his country's active service; and the debt of respect and regret due to his memory cannot be better evinced, than in the affectionate interest manifested towards his orphan child.



Jackson Page

HENRY LASCELLES, EARL OF HAREWOOD.

Harewood

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1830.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

HENRY LASCELLES,

EARL OF HAREWOOD,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

THE family of Harewood is of honor and antiquity in the county of York; being noble in the time of the first Edward, more than five hundred years ago. The name, however, fell to females; and though a long descent of respectable ancestry has brought down the present high title from that stem, it was only of a comparatively modern date, that the wealth and influence of the house justly raised it to the rank of an Earldom of Great Britain. DANIEL LASCELLES, of Stank and Northallerton, was sheriff of York, soon after the accession of George the First; and from that period the name will be found conspicuously in the rolls of Parliament. His grandson, Edwin, by his first wife, was elevated to the peerage, in 1790, as Lord Harewood; but died in 1795, without issue, so that the barony expired with him. It was revived, however, in the ensuing year, 1796, in the person of Edward Lascelles, also a grandson of Daniel Lascelles, by his second wife; who married, in 1761, Miss Chaloner, of Guisborough, the mother of Henry, the present peer. In September, 1812, he was advanced to a Viscounty and Earldom; and died on the 3rd of April, 1820. The titles he bequeathed are—Earl of Harewood, Viscount Lascelles, and Baron Harewood, of Harewood, in the county of York.

Henry, Earl of Harewood, whose Portrait it is the object of this brief Memoir to illustrate, was born on Christmas Day, 1767, and married, in 1794, Henrietta, eldest daughter of

Lieutenant-General Sir John Saunders Sebright, Bart., by whom he has a numerous family of sons and daughters, the senior of whom is Edward, Viscount Lascelles, born in July, 1796. The next two sons have married daughters of the Marquis of Bath, and of the Earl of Carlisle.

The first public act of Lord Harewood, which we find in the usual records of passing events, occurred in 1803, when he seconded the motion of Sir William Scott, for the election of Mr. Abbot to be Speaker of the House of Commons, in the United Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland. He had, however, previously obtained distinction as a sound and valuable member of the lower House; and afforded a fair presage of the weight he was destined to attain in that assembly, as the representative of a great county, and as possessed of all those qualities of good sense, independence, loyal patriotism, and straight-forwardness of purpose, enforced by plain and forcible reasoning, which his after-career in Parliament so beneficially illustrated.

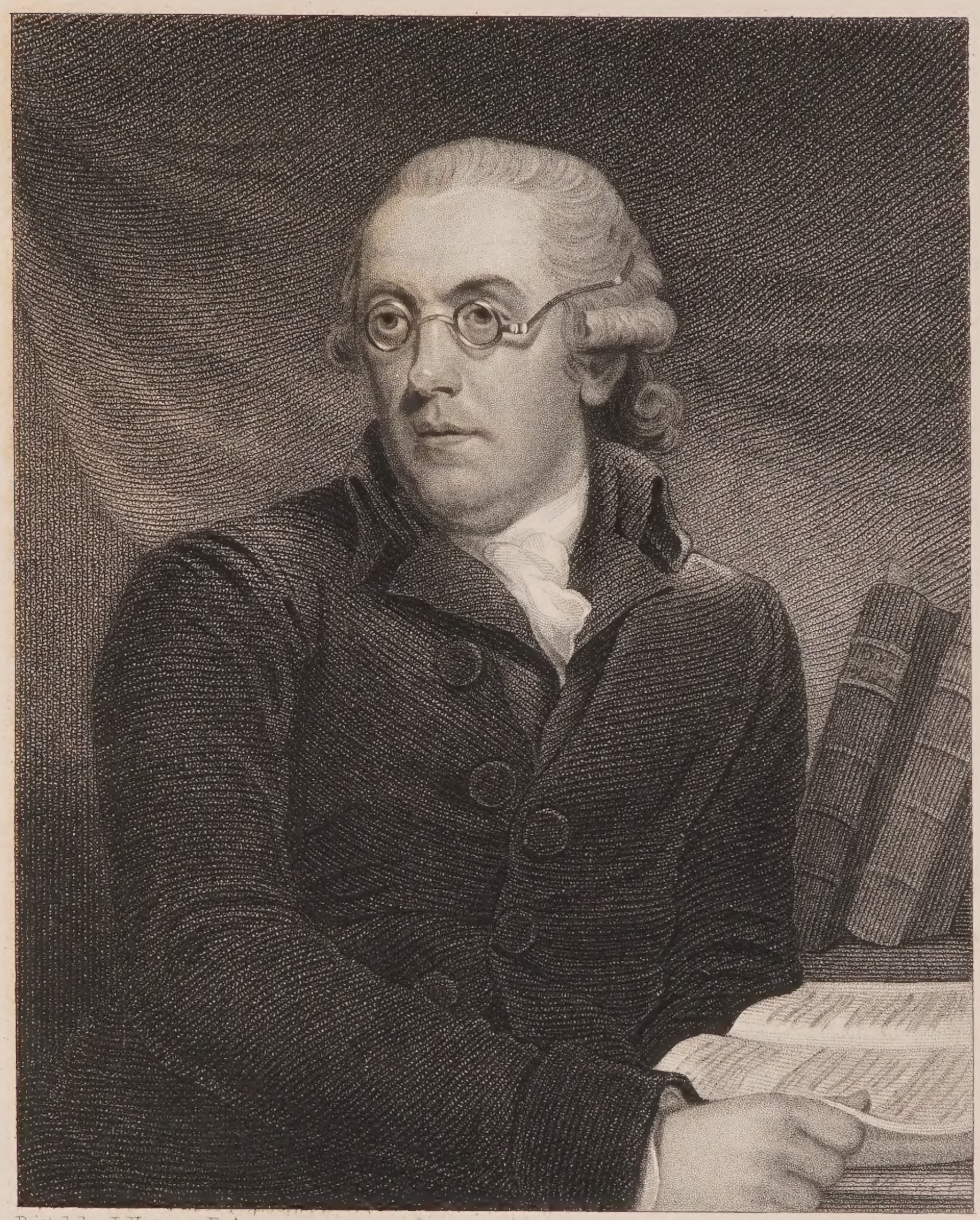
From this period, though not a continual speaker in the House, as if the nation could not go on without his perpetual advice, (the horror or rather the burlesque of the present day,) —Mr. Lascelles was at his post upon all really important occasions, and possessed no slight effect in checking the inroads of power on one hand, and in preserving the constitution from wild innovation on the other. Indeed, the administration of Mr. Pitt, during the great crisis, in which, not only England but Europe was involved, was cordially approved of by Mr. Lascelles; and all the early years of the present century saw him giving an efficient support to that minister. As a debater, he grappled even with the energy of Fox, and never rose in the House of Commons, without commanding that attention which is, *there*, only rendered to superior attainments, or acknowledged political integrity. On the death of Mr. Pitt, the station held by Mr. Lascelles, by common consent, was indicated by his being the mover of the resolution, (January 27, 1806,) “That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions, that the remains of the Right Honorable William Pitt be interred at the public expense, and that a monument be erected in the collegiate church of St. Peter, Westminster, to the memory of that excellent statesman, with an inscription expressive of the public sense of so great and irreparable a loss; and to assure His Majesty that this House will make good the expense attending the same." This motion, though opposed, alas! by Windham, Ponsonby, Fox, and others, was carried by 258, to 89 votes. A few days after, Mr. Lascelles moved, and carried without a division, that £40,000 should be voted for the payment of the debts of that man who had distributed all the rich patronage of England for so many years, and who had died a beggar! This alone would have been, and to posterity will be, the most splendid "inscription" that could express the public sense of his rare qualities and of his loss.

Mr. Lascelles was a stanch friend of the Pitt Club; and we have seen him preside with great urbanity and dignity at its anniversary.

As it would be uninteresting to detail the continued application to public business by which, as Mr. and Lord Lascelles, our subject distinguished himself through succeeding sessions of that Parliament, to which he was a light and an example, combining all the virtues of an independent country gentleman with the authority of a county member, and the influence of natural and cultivated intelligence, we shall merely notice, that Lord Lascelles moved the congratulatory address to the Prince Regent, on the peace with France in 1814.

Since his elevation to the House of Lords, on the decease of his father in 1820, we have little to record of the senatorial efforts of the Earl of Harewood. It is remarkable how many able and efficient commoners retire into the silent performance of their duties, when they become members of the upper house. No doubt this may in a great measure be accounted for from the circumstance, that few questions can arise in that place, to affect represented interests, or demand individual exertion, beyond an honest vote; but still it is curious to behold the most active members of the House of Commons become, as it were, suddenly obliviated by removal into another sphere of usefulness. Far are we from wishing that the same ardour for debate were felt in both; and we simply notice the fact as a corollary to our sketch.

We will add, that whether among Lords or Commons, the kingdom will have cause to rejoice, if it can number among the majority, men half so consistent, able, and honest as the Earl of Harewood.



Painted by J. Hoppner, R.A.

Engraved by S. Freeman.

ROBERT NARES, M.A.–F.R.S.–F. S.A. &c.

ARCHDEACON OF STAFFORD, &c. &c.

R. Nares

FISHER, SON & Co LONDON, 1830.

THE VENERABLE

ARCHDEACON NARES.

The death of this person, so justly celebrated, and respected in the republic of letters, was thus announced in the Literary Gazette of the 28th of March, 1829. "We have this week to record, and deplore, the death of the Rev. and Venerable Archdeacon Nares, who departed this life on Monday, (the 23d,) at the age of seventy-five. His health had been for some time visibly declining; but he was only about a week confined to his chamber. It is out of our power, at present, to attempt any thing like a biographical sketch of this eminent scholar and divine, of this truly amiable and excellent man. If ever an individual deserved pre-eminently the title of 'literary,' it was Archdeacon Nares: his habits had all reference to literature and its pursuits; his life was a life of letters, and the cultivation of valuable knowledge. His writings consist chiefly of divinity, classics, and philology—commencing with 1782, and finishing, we think, with his admirable Glossary in 1822—a long and distinguished career of industry, talent, learning, usefulness, and virtue."

We have transcribed this prompt and brief tribute to the memory of the lamented subject of our sketch, because, though it spoke in the fresh language of immediate sorrow, it yet spoke nothing but the truth of the departed. At whatever period written, every account of that estimable being must re-echo these sentiments; and hand him down to the latest posterity as an ornament to the literature of his age and country, a mild and steady light in the Christian world; and in all the relations of society, an honor to human nature.

It is to be regretted, that, amid the privacy which conceals the actions of men devoted to learned and peaceful avocations, we can find such scanty materials, on minutely tracing their exemplary course; but this is, as it has always been, the necessary consequence of life spent in the practice of useful and unostentatious goodness. While the forward, the presuming, the noisy, the vain, and the ambitious furnish employment for every pen and tongue, it is the fate of the retiring, the wise, the worthy, the modest, and the benefactors of their kind, to perform the noblest things in comparative obscurity, and produce immortal benefits in the calm and silence of unobserved seclusion.

The author lives only in his works; and a few facts, beyond their sphere, is generally all that can reward the inquiries of the biographer.

Robert Nares, born at York, on the 9th of June, 1753, was the son of Dr. James Nares, a distinguished composer and teacher of music, of whom there is a Memoir in the Biographical Dictionary, from which we learn, that he was for many years organist to King George II. and King George III., in whose service he composed many pieces of sacred harmony of a high order, and died in February, 1783. He was brother to the Hon. Sir George Nares, who sat during fifteen years as one of the judges in the Court of Common Pleas. Thus well connected in family, Robert began life with such fair prospects as were calculated to stimulate his exertions, and afford a cheering view to the exercise of the talents with which Providence had blessed him. He was placed at Westminster School, where he became a king's scholar, at the head of his election in 1767, when fourteen years of age. At eighteen, namely, in 1771, he was elected to a studentship of Christ Church, Oxford, where he pursued his studies with great assiduity and commensurate success. In 1775, he took his degree of B. A., and in 1778, that of M. A.; about which period he also entered into holy orders.

Being selected by the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, to be the tutor to his sons—the present Baronet, and the Right Hon. Charles Williams Wynn—Mr. Nares went to reside at the beautiful and splendid mansion of Wynnstay, where, and with the family during their winter abode in London, he sojourned from 1779 to 1783. While in this station he was called upon, not merely to cultivate learned and scholastic studies, but to enter into light and elegant literature; he, accordingly, produced prologues, epilogues, and other accessories to the private dramatic entertainments with which the hospitalities of his patron's mansion were enlivened. At this period, too, he first courted more public fame by publishing his Periodical Essays; and the Essay on the Demon or Divination of Socrates; and soon after, his earliest philological work, the Elements of Orthoëpy, (1784.) In the meanwhile, 1782, his college, Christ Church, presented him with the small living of East Mauduit, in Northamptonshire; which was followed by the gift of that of Doddington, in the same county, and in the patronage of the Lord Chancellor. In 1784, his marriage to Elizabeth Bayley, the youngest daughter of Thomas Bayley, Esq., of Chelmsford, (who died in childbed the following year,) interrupted his close connexion as a resident with the family of Wynn; but he superintended the farther education of his pupils from 1786 to 1788, while they were at Westminster School, and he was an inhabitant of the metropolis as assistant preacher at Berkeley Chapel.

The unblemished character and literary accomplishments of Mr. Nares, which gradually becoming more generally appreciated, had surrounded him with friends, now produced the fruits which were to be anticipated from irreproachable conduct and uncommon ability. In 1787, he was appointed Chaplain to His Royal Highness the Duke of York, and in October of the ensuing year, Assistant Preacher to the Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn. It is well known that this is a station of severe trial, and of consequent eminence, if the performance of the duties required is approved by the enlightened judgment of such a congregation, as that by which the preacher is appreciated. Mr. Nares, during fifteen years, gave entire satisfaction to his learned auditory; who, while they generally felt his powers of reasoning and his depth of erudition in the pulpit, acknowledged his claims upon their individual regard as a member of the social circle, distinguished for refined taste, sound sense, and genuine piety. There was no laxity in principle; no ascetic austerities. Fit for the trust reposed in him, Mr. Nares combined the gentleman and the scholar, with the

Christian and the divine. How many friendships were formed under these auspicious circumstances—which lasted him till that awful time when human friendships avail no more, and higher hopes brighten the last days of the good!

In 1790, (we do not break our narrative by enumerating minor publications, as we will add a list of the whole,) Mr. Nares assisted in the completion of Bridges' History of Northamptonshire; and wrote the Preface. The political agitation and danger which ensued at this era, and put all that was valuable in the establishments and constitution of the country in jeopardy, rallied our able writer as a publicist on the side of government, religion, and order. He published several timely pamphlets, well calculated to abate the torrent of revolution and infidelity. It was these writings, perhaps, which led, in 1793, to his commencing, in conjunction with Mr. Beloe, the British Critic—a review, which for a long period had great influence both in politics and literature. In the same year he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquaries; and also one of the Librarians of the British Museum; afterwards Librarian for the Manuscript Department, where he remained twelve years, and prepared the third volume of the Harleian Catalogue of Manuscripts for the Record Commission, by which it was given to the world. During the preceding year, 1794, it was his misfortune to lose his second wife, Frances Maria, daughter of Charles Fletewood, Esq. of London, to whom he had been united little more than ten months, and who died after having given birth to a son, who survived only a few weeks.

In 1796, the Lord Chancellor, Loughborough, presented Mr. Nares to the rectory of Dalbury near Derby, and in 1798 to that of Sharnford, in Leicestershire; which he held for only a few months, as he was, in about half a year, collated by the Bishop of Lichfield, Cornwallis, to a Canonry Residentiary in the Cathedral of that diocese. In the same year the Bishop of London, Porteus, gave him the small prebend of Islington, in the Cathedral of St. Paul: in February 1799, he was nominated to preach the Warburton lecture in Lincoln's Inn; and in 1800 the Bishop of Lichfield conferred upon him the Archdeaconry of Stafford. In the same year he married the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Smith, many years Head Master of Westminster school; who after nearly thirty years of domestic felicity, is left to lament his loss.—In 1805, the Lord Chancellor, Eldon, without solicitation or interest, presented him to the Vicarage of St. Mary's, Reading; whither he soon after went to reside, having resigned the Vicarage of East Mauduit, his situation at the British Museum, and other appointments which might have interfered with this purpose. Here he lived till 1818,* when, being desirous of returning to London, that he might enjoy the society best suited to his literary tastes and habits, he obtained permission to exchange his vicarage for Allhallows, London Wall, then vacant, to the duties of which he attended in person, till within three weeks of his death, during the greater part of the year; being seldom absent from London more than three months annually, two of which he passed in his residence at Lichfield.

We copy the list of his numerous (nineteen) publications from the Gentleman's Magazine, to which we are also indebted for some of the particulars stated in the foregoing Memoir.

1. "Periodical Essays, No. I. Dec. 2, 1780.—No. X. Feb. 3, 1781."

2. "An Essay on the Demon or Divination of Socrates," 8vo. 1782.

3. "Elements of Orthoëpy; containing a distinct view of the whole Analogy of the English Language, so far as it relates to Pronunciation, Accent, and Quantity, 1784," 8vo.

4. "Remarks on the favourite Ballet of Cupid and Psyche; with some Account of the Pantomime of the Antients, 1788," 12mo.

5. "Principles of Government deduced from Reason, &c. 1792," 8vo.

6. "An Abridgment of the same, adapted to general instruction and use; with a new Introduction, 1793," 8vo.

7. "Man's best Right; a serious Appeal in the name of Religion, 1793," 8vo.

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* We may say, the zealous benefactor of his charge. Among his other good works, the National School was indebted to him for its establishment.

The British Critic, commenced, as we have noticed, in 1793, in conjunction with the Rev. W. Beloe. The editorship was entrusted to the judgment, sagacity, learning, and acuteness of Mr. Nares; and the vigour and perseverance with which this periodical was conducted through difficult and dangerous times, are well known. To each of the half-yearly volumes was prefixed a Preface, always written by Mr. Nares, recapitulating the literature of the period. He proceeded with the work till the end of the forty-second Volume, and then resigned it to others.

9. "Discourses preached before the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn, 1794," 8vo.

10. "A Thanksgiving for Plenty, and a Warning against Avarice; a Sermon, preached at the Cathedral at Lichfield, on Sunday Sept. 20, 1801," 8vo.

11. "The Benefit of Wisdom, and the Evils of Sin. A Sermon preached before the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn, on Sunday Nov. 6, 1803, and published at the request of the Bench," 8vo.

12. "A connected and chronological View of the Prophecies of the Christian Church; in 12 Sermons, preached in Lincoln's Inn Chapel, from the year 1800 to 1804, at the Lecture founded by Bishop Warburton, 1806," 8vo.

13. "Essays and other occasional Compositions, chiefly reprinted, 1810," 2 vols. small 8vo.

14. "Protestantism the Blessing of Britain; a Fast Sermon, preached at the Cathedral of Lichfield, on Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1810," 8vo.

15. "On the Influence of Sectaries, and the Stability of the Church; a Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Stafford, on the days of Visitation, at Cheadle, Stafford, and Walsall, in June 1812," 4to.

16. "The Veracity of the Evangelists demonstrated, by a comparative View of their Histories, 1816," 12mo.

17. "A Glossary; or Collection of Words, Phrases, Names, and Allusions to Customs, Proverbs, &c. which have been thought to require Illustration in the Works of English Authors, particularly Shakspeare and his Contemporaries, 1822," 4to.

18. "A Volume of Sermons on Faith and other Subjects, 1825, 8vo.

19. In 1815, An Edition of Dr. Purdy's Lectures on the Church Catechism, &c. to which was prefixed a Biographical Preface, giving some account of the Author, and of two of his most intimate friends, the Rev. T. Butler, and Lawson Huddleston, Esq. men of distinguished talent and worth.

The late Dr. Vincent, the learned and much esteemed Dean of Westminster,* always spoke of Mr. Nares as a profound Scholar, and a most able Critic. Yet with all his depth of acquirement there was neither assumption, nor the slightest shade of pedantry in him, in his behaviour, or in his conversation. On the contrary, an innate modesty (which we can readily believe stood in the way of higher ecclesiastical distinctions,) marked his demeanour throughout life. He possessed a vivacity as well as a simplicity of manner, which afforded no hint of the attainments and erudition that lay quietly below, and were only discovered by the force of casual circumstances—certainly never displayed.

Among his meritorious efforts in the cause of morality and learning, we can speak from experience of the active and efficient part he took in the formation of the Royal Society of Literature, the illustrious Institution of his late Majesty George IV. The difficulties attendant upon such a task, the framing of unexceptionable rules, the election of the fittest individuals for the enjoyment of the Royal bounty, or the honors of the Society, and the faithful and impartial discharge of all the duties entailed upon the founders of such a body, were overcome and executed by him in a manner entitled to the highest praise. The virtuous and exemplary President, the Bishop of Salisbury, to whom the Sovereign committed the whole charge, had no co-adjutor who rendered him more valuable aid than Mr. Nares. It was therefore but a just tribute to him that he was elected a Vice-President in 1823. He took a warm interest in all the councils and proceedings till the end of his life; and contributed the interesting paper published in the first volume of its Transactions, entitled "An Historical Account of the Discoveries that have been made in Palimpsest (or Rescript) Manuscripts." He also supplied a Memoir on the religion and divination of Socrates.

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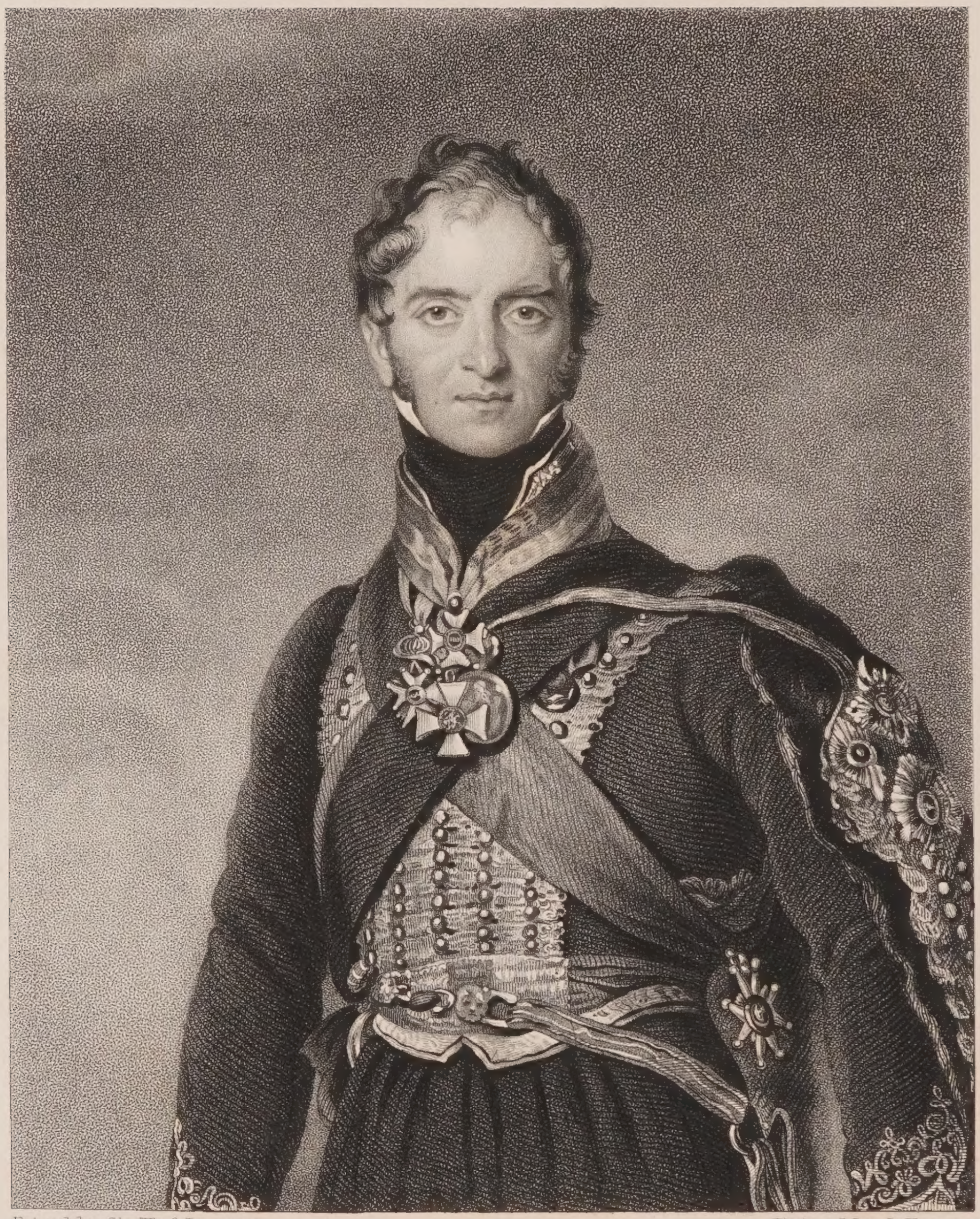
* To his sermons published in 1817, Archdeacon Nares prefixed the Life, &c. He was also a frequent contributor to the Gentleman's Magazine, and furnished some papers to the Archæologia, particularly observations on parts of a Sarcophagus discovered at Reading Abbey, and supposed to have contained the remains of Henry I.

In private life no man was ever more beloved than Archdeacon Nares. His friends from youth to old age were delighted by his talents, while they were compelled to set a still higher value upon his individual character, so estimable and honorable in every relation of life. To know him indeed was to be attached to him; for the exemplary divine, the profound scholar, the judicious critic, and the elegant writer, was at the same time one of the most amiable, pleasing, and instructive companions into whose society good fortune could throw either the young or the old. No wonder then that his intimacy was zealously courted, and that he ranked among his most constant friends a number of the foremost men of the times, which he himself lived to adorn.

Our Portrait is from Hoppner, with whom he was intimate from his youth; and it affords us a gratification to be able to accompany it with a specimen of the playful spirit which imbued the original. The subjoined is an unpublished Epigram on himself, written in 1826:—

"Time has not thinn'd my flowing hair,
Nor laid my aged temples bare;
But he has play'd the barber's part,
And powder'd me with wondrous art,
Meaning, no doubt, to let me see,
He thinks to make mere dust of me;
But let him know that on a day,
God will re-animate this clay,
And life unchangeable will give
When Time himself shall cease to live."

We omitted to notice in its proper place, that Mr. Nares was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1804: at his demise, therefore, his literary and ecclesiastical honors might be given as follow: "The Rev. Robert Nares, M.A. F.R.S. F.S.A. V.P. R.S.L. Archdeacon of Stafford, Canon Residentiary of Lichfield, and Rector of Allhallows, London Wall."



Painted by Sir Thos. Lawrence.

Engraved by S. Freeman.

HENRY WILLIAM PAGET, MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY, K.G. &c. &c. &c.

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL-GOVERNOR OF IRELAND, &c. &c.

Anglesey

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON 1831.

THE MOST NOBLE

HENRY-WILLIAM PAGET,

MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY,

ETC. ETC.

THE ancestor of this noble family, on whom the dignity of the Peerage was conferred, had distinguished himself in early life by great learning, and extraordinary talents for public business; in consequence of which, he was employed in situations of importance and confidence in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and under successive sovereigns—Edward the Sixth, Mary, and Elizabeth.

The Order of the Garter was conferred upon him; and, in the second year of Edward the Sixth, he was called by writ to the House of Peers, under the title of Baron Paget of Beaudesert, in the county of Stafford.

The Earldom of Uxbridge was conferred upon Henry, son of the sixth Lord Paget, he having been summoned to the House of Peers in his father's lifetime by the title of Lord Burton, Baron of Burton, in the county of Stafford. The second Earl of Uxbridge died without issue in 1769; and, upon this event, the title became extinct; but the Barony of Paget, being a Barony in fee, devolved upon Caroline, the daughter of Brigadier-General Thomas Paget, then married to Sir Nicholas Bayly, Baronet, of Plasnewydd, in the county of Anglesey; and, when she died, Henry, their eldest surviving son, became Lord Paget; and afterwards, by creation in 1784, Earl of Uxbridge.

The present noble family, in the male line, is of high antiquity; and its descent is illustrious through many generations. Sir Nicholas Bayly was great-grandson of Lewis Bayly, Bishop of Bangor, a descendant of the ancient Scottish house of Bayly, or Baillie, Earls of Lamington, and whose lineal ancestor married the daughter and heiress of the renowned Sir William Wallace. Dr. Lewis Bayly was one of the most eminent divines of his time. He accompanied King James the First to London on his accession to the English throne, and was appointed tutor of Prince Charles, afterwards King Charles the First. He married Ann, daughter of Sir Henry Bagenall, and granddaughter of Sir Nicholas Bagenall, of Newry Castle; both of whom filled the high and arduous station of Mareschall of the armies in Ireland, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth;—the latter was slain at the battle of Blackwater in 1598. Sir Nicholas Bagenall married a co-heiress of the ancient Welsh family of Vychan, afterwards surnamed Griffith, from which family also sprung the royal house of Tudor. Through this line the Marquess derives his mansion in Anglesey, and the greater portion of his Welsh and Irish estates.

Henry, third Earl of Uxbridge, entered the army when young, and served in America and the West Indies. He was afterwards Colonel of the Staffordshire militia; and enjoyed through life the distinguished honor of the personal friendship of King George the Third.

Upon his death, on the 13th of March, 1812, Henry-William, his eldest son, born on the 17th of May, 1768, succeeded to the title, as fourth Earl of Uxbridge.

His education had all the advantages of early tuition at home—at Westminster—at Oxford; and also of foreign travel. And, notwithstanding the allurements of a life to which high rank, family affluence, and all personal accomplishments gave him introduction and welcome, his classical attainments were of an exalted character.

At the period when Europe was thrown into convulsion by the French Revolution, Lord Paget became a soldier. Having raised a regiment of infantry, he was appointed to its command as Colonel, and was engaged in the arduous service of the first campaigns of the British army in Flanders, under H. R. H. the Duke of York.

In the interval of foreign service, his Lordship was in command of a brigade in the garrison at Ipswich, and here was formed a series of cavalry movements, by which this force was rendered more effective and formidable than any of a similar description ever sent before by Britain into the field. Lord Paget was enabled to show the practical effect of his own lessons, connected with British spirit and courage, in successive campaigns.

Nothing, indeed, could surpass the gallantry of his conduct as the leader of the Cavalry Brigade in the Peninsular war. On every occasion in which this body met the enemy, it added to its reputation as a most effective arm of the British force; and often performed exploits of such dash and enterprise, as rather to resemble the deeds of ancient chivalry, than the more regulated services of modern tactics. In the heart of these brilliant achievements, the noble Lord was ever to be found; and the enthusiasm which so largely contributed to victory, sprung in no small measure from his own personal bearing and example, which excited the admiration of his comrades of all ranks, from the Commander-in-Chief to the private soldier.

In covering the disastrous retreat of Sir John Moore, Lord Paget had a most arduous duty; throughout which his skill and bravery were alike conspicuous. Keeping in check the superior numbers of an adversary, warm and daring in pursuit, he taught them to beware of encounters with the English cavalry; and particularly in the gallant affair on the Ezla, in front of Benavente, 29th of December, 1808, where General Lefebvre Desnouettes, the Commander of the Imperial Guard, was taken prisoner, he distinguished himself and his intrepid followers in a way which taught the enemy caution in all his future movements. In more fortunate campaigns, his Lordship continued to evince the same daring spirit, and, to use the common phraseology of the camp, "covered himself with laurels."

When Buonaparte, in 1815, returned from Elba, and, by an exertion of influence almost miraculous, raised a formidable army to support his resumption of the throne of France—all Europe was roused, and imbodied in arms; and not last, but first, in this perilous and momentous struggle, were the troops of Great Britain in the field. Lord Paget, having now become Earl of Uxbridge, as second to the Duke of Wellington, commanded the allied cavalry of the army; and the result of the memorable day of Waterloo attests their unrivalled prowess.

It was at the close of the battle, and when the enemy were in full retreat, that Lord Uxbridge lost his leg. Upon his Lordship's personal conduct in this tremendous conflict, and under the sufferings incident to his wound, we might, without flattery, dilate; but the living memory of his own age, and historical record hereafter, will do him more ample justice.

His Lordship was received in England with loud acclamations from all ranks of people. The Marquisate of Anglesey was conferred upon him, to mark the royal estimation of his services; which were honored with the further reward of a unanimous vote of thanks by the two Houses of Parliament. He received the orders of the Bath and the Garter from his own Sovereign, and he was also invested with all the distinguished orders of the allied Sovereigns.

When the august ceremony of the Coronation—to which our memorial is called on to refer—took place, the Marquess of Anglesey sustained the office of Lord High Steward; and nothing could exceed the grace and dignity which the horse and his rider displayed in the magnificent arena of Westminster Hall.

On this occasion, the following very neat epigram was produced:—

Tho' Anglesey's steed with a retrograde pace,
So delightfully curvets and prances,
'Tis before the king's friends he retreats with such grace,
His enemies dread his advances.

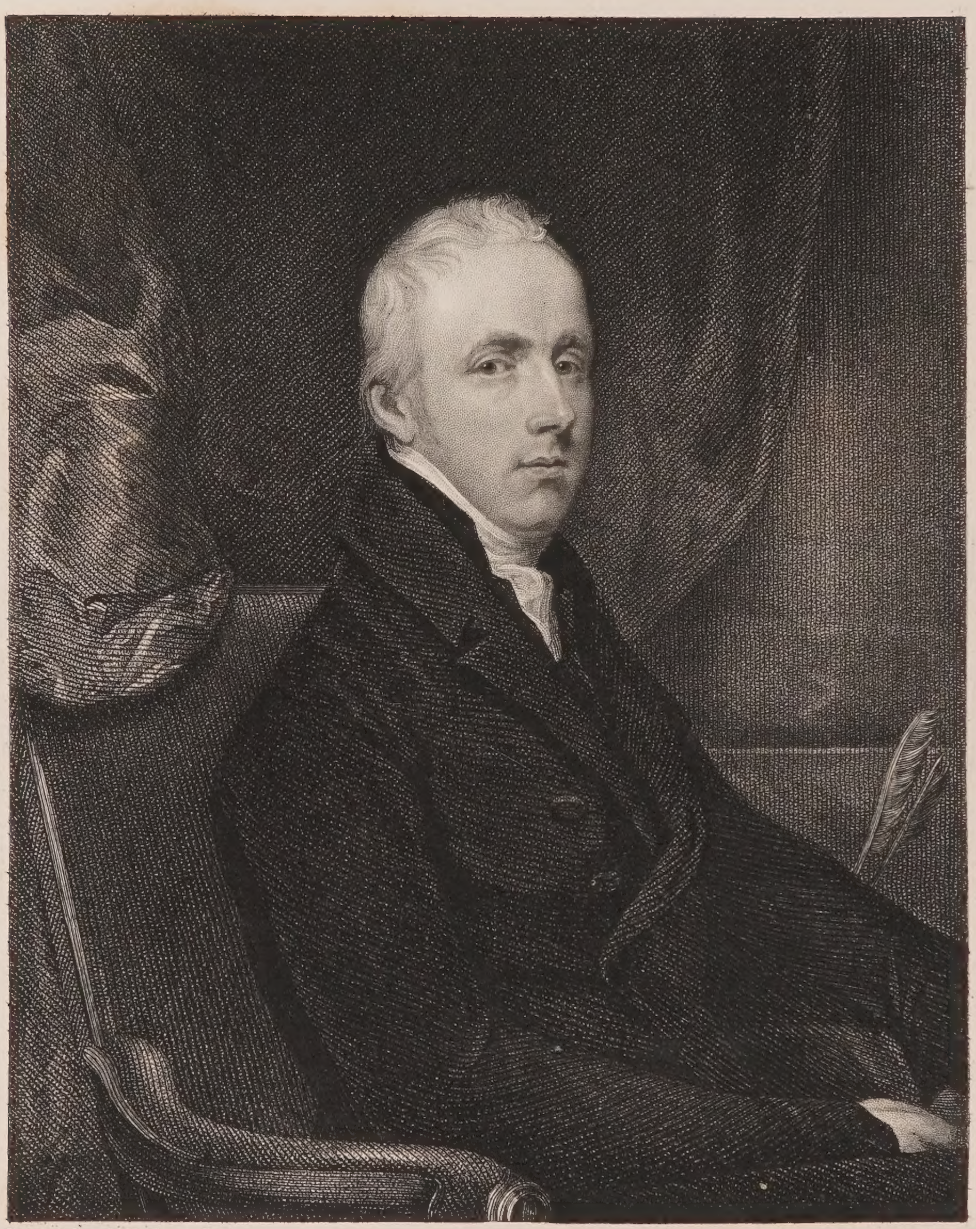
His Lordship was afterwards appointed to the office of Master-General of the Ordnance, with a seat in the Cabinet, as a colleague of our lamented minister, the late Mr. Canning. On the 1st day of March, 1828, his Lordship was sworn in Lord Lieutenant-Governor, and Governor-General of Ireland.

In this important station, as representative of his illustrious Sovereign, his Lordship engaged the warm affections of the Irish people. He secured their obedience to the laws. He subdued religious animosities. He conciliated general good-will. He sought to ameliorate and improve the condition of the labouring classes; commerce had received an active spring through his patronage and munificence, and every means were put in progress towards national prosperity, when he was recalled by the king's minister in the tenth month of his vice-regal functions.

The sensation created by this act must be still fresh in the memory of the public, as well as the manly and dignified course taken by the noble Marquess, on resuming his seat in the Upper House of Parliament. We believe there was but one feeling on the subject in England and Ireland; and the latter country, as it showed its deep regrets at his departure, may now be expected to reap great political advantages from his return. On the accession of the present ministry, the Marquess of Anglesey was re-appointed Lord Lieutenant; and never was there a period when individual character in the government was so essential to the happiness and welfare of the governed. By the time this brief sketch issues from the press, his Lordship will probably be in the exercise of his functions; and the people of Ireland, who loved his frank and generous conduct in every relation of life, as much as his straight-forward and impartial policy in their trying and difficult affairs, have already cause to rejoice in the near prospect of renewing those ties which united them together in a bond of reciprocal attachment.

And these are days of no common difficulty to legislators; days, we would say, in which the soldier, become statesman, has of all others the most difficult task to perform. But Lord

Anglesey, though one of the brightest military heroes of our age, has displayed such noble qualities in civil life, that we not only do not fear his Irish government, but augur from it the most auspicious results. He has shown what he is, and has already been weighed. We grant him, therefore, willingly the chivalrous honor of leading our gallant Cavalry brigades: will not Ireland hail and rally round the spirit? But more, in him she will receive, for the second time, the impartial conservator of human rights, the honest reformer of every real grievance, the equal holder of the balance of justice: will she not improve and grow happy under such auspices? It is impossible that such a man should not be a beneficent destiny to Ireland.



Painted by J. Jackson, R.A.   Engraved by T. A. Dean.

GEORGE HOWARD, EARL OF CARLISLE.

Carlisle

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1831.

GEORGE HOWARD,

EARL OF CARLISLE,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

OUR Portrait of this most estimable nobleman, from a picture by Jackson, might almost spare us the task of writing a biographical memoir, if these characters were to be taken from physiognomy, and our friends did not expect a few details from the pen. We have hardly seen a likeness where the pencil spoke more truly. High intellect, amiability, refinement, and the calm firmness which distinguishes true and natural from acquired and self-asserting dignity, are marked in every lineament; and these features only proclaim the exalted individual aright. The long roll of the British Peerage is not graced by a name more worthy of esteem and honor than that of GEORGE HOWARD, the EARL OF CARLISLE.

This branch of the family, derived from the ducal house of Norfolk, was ennobled about the middle of the seventeenth century; when, in the year 1661, soon after the civil wars, the first peer, Charles, the great-grandson of the famous "Belted Will Howard," was called to the Upper House as Earl of Carlisle, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, and Baron Dacre of Gillesland. This was the royal act of King Charles, his Lordship having been previously created, by Cromwell in 1657, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, and Baron of Gillesland. From him is descended, through many of the most splendid female alliances of his ancestors, GEORGE, the subject of this brief sketch, who is the son of Frederick, the fifth Earl; and a man of such celebrity, that we will venture to devote a few lines to his memory.

Earl Frederick was the Eton contemporary of Fox, Hare, and other celebrated individuals, and early displayed that predilection for elegant literature and the fine arts which distinguished him in after life. In 1780, he was appointed Viceroy of Ireland, which office he filled with benefit to the country for nearly two years; when one of the political changes so frequent in those days interrupted his measures, and he gave place to the Duke of Portland. Many important questions afterwards agitated the kingdom, and in all these his Lordship took a prominent part, and, for a long period, in opposition to Mr. Pitt. On the breaking out of the French revolutionary war, however, his Lordship, alarmed by the danger of the crisis, ranged himself with the government, to strengthen and support it against the common enemy.

But his Lordship claims our tribute rather as a scholar and a poet, than as a statesman. Even his boyhood was adorned by a devotion to the Muses; and several of the periodical publications of that era were enriched by his fugitive pieces. A splendid edition of his acknowledged productions was published by Bulmer in 1801. "The Father's Revenge," and "The Stepmother," two tragedies, were later works; and the noble Lord followed the pursuits of literature with ardour to the end of his life in 1825, and was equally the friend of literary men, and the munificent patron of the arts.

It will be recollected by our readers how bitterly he was assailed by his relative Lord Byron, in his literary character; and we refer to the matter, for the purpose of throwing some light upon this incident, which none of the biographers of Lord Byron have yet done. Lord Carlisle was related to our splendid poet by the marriage of his grandfather Henry, the fourth Earl, to Isabella the great-aunt of Byron; and we are informed that the mother of the latter, a wayward woman, had, from his childhood upwards, prejudiced his mind against his paternal relations. It was not, therefore, surprising, that with a temperament like his, and impressed with erroneous feelings, he should at the first semblance of an occasion mistake civility for affront, and throw himself back on his native pride and resentment, instead of looking fairly at the circumstances which gave rise to his anger. It was then he struck the blow, which he afterwards repented, and in some measure recalled. The offence, we believe, was on account of Lord Carlisle's declining to introduce him to the House of Peers, when he took his seat; and also referring him for his pedigree to the Herald's College previous to the issue of the writ. But it seems to have been his own temper, and not the facts, which could afford materials for so much spleen: the Earl of Carlisle never meant to treat Lord Byron slightingly, by pointing to him the only place where his pedigree could be made out; and with regard to the introduction, it is not consistent with the rules of the House, for a peer of a superior to introduce a peer of an inferior degree. A peer by descent, after receiving his writ, indeed, takes the oaths at the table without any introduction; and a peer newly created is introduced by two peers of his own rank. But, misinformed on these points, Lord Byron gave way to his passions, and endeavoured to stigmatize, or rather turn into ridicule, the party who had so unconsciously offended him.

As every incident in which Byron was concerned, and especially when connected with so exalted a person as the Earl of Carlisle, is of public interest, we hope to be excused for this episode; and now return to the more immediate object of our sketch.

The present Earl was born 17th September, 1773, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. As his father was embarked in political life, it is probable that he contemplated a similar course for his son; and accordingly in 1795-6, we find that he accompanied Lord Malmesbury in one of his missions to the continent, and was, no doubt, thus early initiated into many of the mysteries of diplomacy. On his return he took his seat in the House of Commons; and continued to devote himself to parliamentary duties with more attention than usual with young men of similar rank and fortune.

In 1806, he was a Commissioner for the affairs of India, and so competent to his office, that we are indebted to him for one of the most luminous speeches upon the affairs of that country, which has ever been pronounced within the walls of the House. It was published separately as a pamphlet, and is, we believe, the only distinct publication which we can attribute to his Lordship. We believe his Lordship contributed, if nothing besides, a very clever Latin poem to the famous Antijacobin newspaper.

Subsequently to this period, his Lordship was sent on a special mission to Berlin; but of the intents and purposes of such secret and important employment, we cannot be expected to give any information.

After remaining some time in Prussia, his Lordship returned home, and resumed his useful though not too obtrusive public services; for he spoke very seldom in Parliament, yet he exercised, in consequence of his acknowledged talents and intelligence, a beneficial influence, more felt than heard of, in the counsels and government of the nation.—Thus years rolled on, till in 1824, he was made Lord-Lieutenant of the East Riding of Yorkshire; and in 1825, (September 4th), succeeded his father in the Earldom of Carlisle.

In 1827, when Mr. Canning was called upon by his Majesty to form an administration, his Lordship, between whom and the minister an intimacy, alike honorable to the tastes and endowments of both, had long been established, accepted the office of First Commissioner of Woods and Forests, with a seat in the cabinet; and afterwards Privy Seal, which he resigned in 1828.

At present his Lordship has a seat in the Cabinet, but without office; and his addition to their numbers may justly be deemed one of the most stable assurances of the continuation of the new government; since, whatever changes may assail it, the country will always look with confidence to men actuated by that purity of principle and integrity which distinguishes the Earl of Carlisle. Such an individual can want nothing, can desire nothing, but the welfare of the land in which he has so large a stake; and, surrounded by a family like his, with a son, Lord Morpeth, following admirably in the steps of his forefathers, whether we look to patriotism or the love of science and literature, England has the surest of pledges that he will do his duty, even were he not stimulated by the finest sense of innate rectitude, and the example of a glorious race.

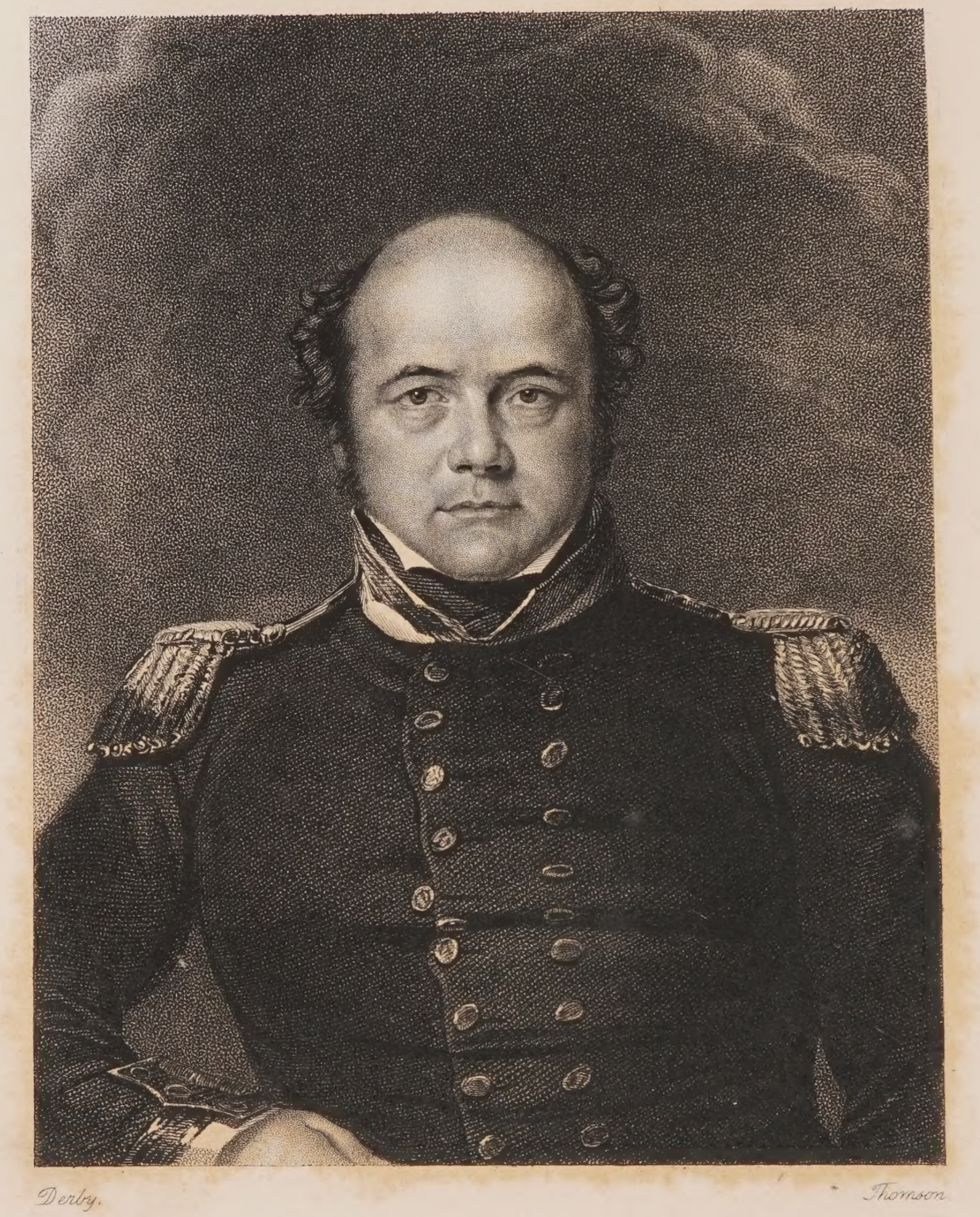
His Lordship, on March 21st, 1801, married Lady Georgiana Cavendish, the eldest daughter of William, the fifth Duke of Devonshire, by whom he has six sons and six daughters. Of the latter are married, Lady Caroline to the Hon. William Lascelles, third son of the Earl of Harewood; Lady Georgiana to the Right Hon. George Agar Ellis, eldest son of Viscount Clifden, and now First Commissioner of Woods and Forests; Lady Harriet to George, Earl Gower, eldest son of the Marquess of Stafford; and Lady Blanche to William Cavendish, Esq. Member of Parliament for the University of Cambridge.

The titles are, Earl of Carlisle, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, in the county of Northumberland, and Baron Dacre of Gillesland. His Lordship's principal seats are Naworth Castle, the ancient castle of the Dacres, a coheiress of whom married Belted Will Howard, above two hundred years ago, in Cumberland; and Castle Howard, in the county of York. The latter mansion is adorned by a splendid collection of paintings of ancient and modern masters, and combines many of the *chef d'œuvres* of the greatest foreign artists, with some of the finest performances which the liberal patronage of the noble owners could accomplish from native art.—As a matter of curiosity, we append a notice of two of the most remarkable of these works from the Catalogue at Castle Howard.

ADORATION OF OUR SAVIOUR BY THE WISE MEN, by *Mabeuse.*—A wonderful production of the Art. This picture, though painted almost 300 years ago, appears, from the freshness of its colours, to have been finished within this century. Every part is touched with the same laborious minuteness. The draperies and the ornaments of jewellery, &c. introduced, are in themselves sufficient for the employment of years. The heads are executed with great spirit and freedom. The portraits of the Duke of Brabant, John of Leyden, Albert Durer, with his own, heighten the value of this astonishing effort of painting. It is to be regretted that more of the persons introduced (clearly portraits) are not handed down to us by name. The painter is said to have given eight years of unremitted labour to this work.

NATIONAL PORTRAITS.

The Three Maries, by *Annibal Caracci.*—If there ever was a picture that united all the excellencies of painting, this seems to be that wonderful effort of the Art. The drawing, colouring, and composition, cannot be surpassed; and the deep tragedy which it exhibits, to use the words of a great author, Dr. Johnson, " storms the human heart." The expression of grief of Mary Magdalen is carried to the extremest point of agonizing wo; and most astonishing is it, that such fixed despair, and sense of excruciating misery, should be described on the human countenance, without verging to grimace or distortion. The fainting figure of the Mother of Jesus is a masterly contrast to the dead body of the Son; and the terror expressed by the elder Mary, at viewing her daughter apparently lifeless, gives room to describe distress of a more varied kind, than that of the Mary Magdalen. The size of the canvass (and on which the whole of the subject can be embraced at once) much enhances the value of this picture, as it prevents a painful operation of the mind, which the spectator is called upon to exert, in order to unite the extended parts of a larger subject. Many stories are recorded of the esteemed value of this extraordinary work; such as the court of Spain having offered to cover its surface with louis-d'ors, which would amount, by the trial, to 8000. An offer, within these last twenty years, from England, is said to have extended to more than that sum. While in possession of the Duke of Orleans, and before the troubles commenced in France, it was not probable that any offer (with the hope of acceptance) could have been made. By the most awful and unexpected of all events, the French Revolution, and in the wreck of all princely grandeur and individual property, it found its way into England, and into the hands of the owner of this house; where, as long as it remains, may it not only be an object of delight and admiration, but a memorial of the instability of all worldly possessions!



Derby. *Thomson.*

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN CAPT. R.N.

John Franklin

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON 1830.

CAPTAIN

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN, R.N. KNT.

F.R.S. ETC. ETC. ETC.

Few persons are better entitled to call the interest they have excited a national one, than the individual whose services are the subject of the ensuing sketch. To the credit of our country be it spoken, that England was the first to set the example of voyages of scientific discovery. The early navigators renewed the days of their Saxon or Danish ancestors; their path was blood, and their desire gain. The attempts set on foot by one or two enlightened merchants, and carried into action by several daring sailors, to find out the north-west passage, may be considered the commencement of that system which has even in our own time been pursued with so much success. The navigators of Great Britain are as much an order by themselves, as the philosophers and poets of other countries; and the subject of our Memoir is among the most distinguished of his class.

John Franklin was born at Spilsby, in Lincolnshire, in 1786. In his fourteenth year he entered the navy, a profession for which he had always shown strong partiality, and was at once initiated into its utmost peril and glory, by being on board the Polyphemus, under the command of Captain Lawford, at the battle of Copenhagen. He escaped without a wound, while a brother midshipman was killed in that tremendous action. He next joined the Investigator under the command of Captain Flinders, who was bound on a voyage of discovery to the coast of New Holland. Under this able seaman, who was his uncle by marriage, he acquired much of the knowledge so invaluable to his after career. Young Franklin was one of the midshipmen appointed to attend the Captain whenever he made excursions in boats, or visited the shore, for the purpose of statistical or mathematical observations. After some time, the Investigator being unfit for further service, the officers were ordered home in the Porpoise, commanded by Lieutenant Fowler.

Captain Flinders having discovered a passage in the strait which divides New Holland and New Guinea, was anxious to return with the Porpoise by a way that seemed to be alike safe and expeditious. But on the 10th of August, 1803, both ships struck on a coral reef. Captain Flinders now took the command upon himself, and with Mr. Park, the chief officer of the Cato, proceeded in the largest cutter for Port Jackson, upwards of 300 miles distant. Ninety-four persons remained on the coral bank, a bleak barren rock, supported for above two months only by what they had saved from the wreck.

Mr. Franklin next sailed with Captain Fowler to Canton, and there embarked on board the Earl Camden, Captain Dance, and had the charge of the signals during the celebrated engagement in the straits of Malacca, where the French Admiral Linois was so completely defeated. This victory was the more glorious, as the British fleet only consisted of Bombay merchant ships and East Indiamen. Yet, heavily laden, and ill suited as they were for nautical warfare, they entirely baffled a French line-of-battle ship, two heavy frigates, a sloop of war, and a brig of eighteen guns.

Mr. Franklin was next appointed to the Bellerophon, Captain Loring, at whose express direction he was employed as signal-midshipman in the memorable battle of Trafalgar; a service of great danger, as the Bellerophon being engaged yard-arm and yard-arm with the Aigle, a French seventy-four, the poop where he stood was swept by the enemy's musketry. Out of forty companions, only seven, of whom he was one, escaped without wounds or death. A singular instance of intrepidity, and of the respect given to it even by a foe, occurred in this engagement. The ensign having been twice shot away and rehoisted, on the third time Christopher Beaty, the yeoman of the signals, exclaimed, "Well, that is too bad; the fellows will say we have struck;" and seizing a union jack, he jumped up the mizzen-rigging, and stopped the corners the whole breadth of the rigging, in the most cool and determined manner:—the enemy, who had never before allowed a man to show himself without firing, struck with Beaty's daring, paused in their discharge, and stood looking, as if in admiration of his brave conduct.

For the next two years Mr. Franklin served in the channel fleet and the Rochefort squadron, under Admiral Cornwallis, Lord St. Vincent, and Sir Richard Strachan.

He afterwards went on board the Bedford, was employed on shore by Sir Putney Malcolm, and on December 12th, 1814, distinguished himself particularly in the attack on the American gun-boats, whose capture was one of the most dashing exploits performed during the war. He was here slightly wounded. The whole of this attack, indeed, deserves to be more noticed than it has yet been, as it was one of the bravest and most peculiar actions that occurred in this arduous struggle. Mr. Franklin was in the command of the Bedford's boats, and the first to board one of the enemy's schooners, which surrendered to him. His conduct obtained the highest praise, both from the naval and military commanders, was honorably mentioned in the official despatches, and also procured for him the first lieutenancy of the Forth, Captain Sir William Bolton. This ship conveyed the Duchess d' Angouleme to France, on the restoration of the Bourbons. Twice before in the Bedford, Mr. Franklin had formed part of a royal convoy. That ship escorted the Emperor of the Brazils to South America, and was part of the squadron commanded by his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, which accompanied the allied sovereigns to England. He was also engaged in land service, being attached to the body of seamen belonging to the expedition which succeeded in carrying the fort on the left banks of the Mississippi.

In 1818, two expeditions were fitted out for the discovery, if possible, of the long sought passage to the North Pole. Lieutenant Franklin commanded the tender, the Trent, attached to the Dorothea, Captain Buchan; to which post he was recommended by the late Sir Joseph Banks, who was one of his very early friends and patrons. The great object of this expedition was to make for the North Pole, and if it reached that destination, to enter the Pacific by Behring's straits. The attempt was, however, unsuccessful.

Immediately on his return he was appointed to the command of an overland expedition to the shores of the Polar seas, and by this means open, if possible, a communication with Captain Parry, who had just sailed for Davis's straits. This was a most important point to effect; for could they have succeeded in the junction, the continuance of the coast eastward from the Coppermine river to Repulse Bay or Melville Peninsula, might have been inferred, though not actually traced; and at any rate the opening to the Atlantic have been assured.

Captain Franklin sailed from England in 1819, in the Prince of Wales. In August he arrived in Hudson's Bay. The second week in September the adventurers set forth for Cumberland House on the Pine Island Lake. The distance was 690 miles. The ascent of the Hill-river was laborious to an excess. The boats had usually to be dragged up by ropes, and the goods to be continually taken out and carried across the land, or *portages,* as they are called by the natives and hunters. The cold was intense; yet Captain Franklin and his companions arrived in July at the Coppermine river, after a journey of 815 miles in snow shoes weighing three pounds, their ankles swollen with exertion, and chilled by the frost. He then sailed between five and six hundred miles along the coast, thus making the most important additions to our geographical knowledge, furnishing data whereby to correct our very defective maps, and enlarging the stores of natural history.

The sufferings of Captain Franklin and his party seem, on their return, to have been beyond human endurance. Cold, famine, and fatigue assailed them in their severest forms. What a picture of suffering is a day like the following! and yet that was but the very commencement: "As we had nothing to eat, and were destitute of the means of making a fire, we remained in our beds the whole day; but the covering of our blankets was insufficient to prevent us from feeling the severity of the frost, and suffering inconvenience from the drifting of the snow into our tents. There was no abatement of the storm the next day; our tents were completely frozen, and the snow had drifted around them to a depth of three feet; and even in the inside there was a covering several inches thick on the blankets. Our suffering from cold, in a canvass tent, with the temperature at 20°, and without fire, will easily be imagined; it was, however, less than that which we felt from hunger."

Their only food, during this dreadful journey, was a chance deer or partridge, and some *tripe de roche*. They were at last reduced to the dreadful extremity of eating their shoes. A piece of singed leather was an absolute dainty; and the bones and putrid skins of animals, left in the snow, were greedily devoured. Capt. Franklin thus describes another day, the sample of many: "The first operation, after encamping, was to thaw our frozen shoes, if a sufficient fire could be made, and dry ones were put on; each person then wrote his notes of the daily occurrences, and evening prayers were read. As soon as supper was prepared, it was eaten, generally in the dark, and we went to bed, and kept up a cheerful conversation until our blankets were thawed by the heat of our bodies, and we had gathered sufficient warmth to enable us to fall asleep. On many nights we had not even the luxury of going to bed in dry clothes; for when the fire was insufficient to dry our shoes, we durst not pull them off, lest they should freeze so hard as to be unfit to put them on in the morning."

We remember nothing in fictitious narrative that ever affected us so painfully as when, after all their toil and hardship, the travellers reach Fort Enterprise, and find it perfectly desolate. "It would be impossible to describe our sensations," says the admirable volume published by Captain Franklin, "after entering this miserable abode, and discovering how we had been neglected: the whole party shed tears, not so much for their own fate, as for that of our friends in the rear, whose lives depended on immediate relief." Reduced by hunger and fatigue to a state of infant weakness, Captain Franklin's occupation was to search for skins under the snow; but he had not strength to drag more than two, though the distance was not twenty yards. These very skins, their chief sustenance, were so putrid as to be loathed even by men suffering this extremity of famine. So reduced to weakness were the party, that when any number sat or lay down, they were obliged to keep a companion or two standing on the watch, to help them to rise again!!!"

We cannot here but point attention to the religious spirit which alone supported them through such utter misery. Captain Franklin states, "We read prayers, and a portion of the New Testament, in the morning and evening; and I may remark, that the performance of these duties always afforded us the greatest consolation, serving to reanimate our hope in the mercy of the Omnipotent, who alone could save and deliver us."—"Owing to our loss of flesh, the hardness of the floor, from which we were only protected by a blanket, produced soreness over the body, and especially those parts on which the weight rested in lying; yet to turn ourselves for relief was matter of toil and difficulty."

But even this bodily suffering was aggravated by its mental effects. "In proportion as our strength decayed, (he adds,) our minds exhibited symptoms of weakness, evinced by a kind of unreasonable pettishness with each other. Each of us thought the other weaker in intellect than himself, and more in need of advice and assistance. So trifling a circumstance as a change of place, recommended by one as being warmer or more comfortable, and refused by the other from a dread of motion, frequently called forth fretful expressions, which were no sooner uttered than atoned for, to be repeated, perhaps, in the course of a few minutes." Relief arrived at length. Three Indians brought them provisions, and were received with equal delight and thankfulness.

We have only given a brief outline of this extraordinary adventure, which occupied the years 1819, 20, 21, and 22; and must refer to Captain Franklin's own works, for the filling up of the noble picture of exertion and endurance. Such men are indeed the great ornaments of their country. The traveller who braves every danger, and suffers every hardship in the pursuit of information, must look to opinion as his chief reward. That reward has, in its most extended sense, been given to Captain Franklin. Universal was the applause and sympathy with which he was met on his return to England; and, we may be permitted to say, never were they more truly merited.

In 1823 he married Miss Porden; a lady whose poetical talents had already been employed in celebrating those heroes of the north. "The Arctic Expedition" had alluded very gracefully to their gallant efforts.* It is not, therefore to be wondered at, that the hero of imagination became the object of admiration, when circumstances threw them together. The happiness of this marriage was very brief. Mrs. Franklin had a predisposition to consumption, and the disease was at its height when her husband was ordered on another voyage of Arctic discovery. Mrs. Franklin had always entered enthusiastically into his plans; and, with all the energy of a highly-toned mind, it was the wife who gave the support in this trying separation. They parted, and she expired five days after; leaving an infant daughter, who still survives. No hazard in Captain Franklin's life of arduous duty could ever have equalled this painful sacrifice. We will quote his own simple and touching allusion to it:—

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* "Sail, sail, adventurous barks! go fearless forth;
Storm, on his glacier seat, the misty North.
Give to mankind the inhospitable zone,
And Britain's trident plant in seas unknown.
Go! sure wherever science fills the mind,
Or grief for man long severed from his kind,
That anxious natives watch the changing gales,
And prayers and blessings swell your flagging sails."

"During our absence, the men had pitched the tent on the beach, and I caused the silk union flag to be hoisted, which my deeply lamented wife had made, and presented to me as a parting gift, under the express injunction that it was not to be unfurled before the expedition reached the sea. I will not attempt to describe my emotions as it expanded to the breeze, however natural, and, for the moment, irresistible. I felt that it was my duty to suppress them, and that I had no right, by an indulgence in my own sorrows, to cloud the animated countenances of my companions. Joining, therefore, with the best grace that I could command, in the general excitement, I endeavoured to return, with corresponding cheerfulness, their warm congratulations, on having thus planted the British flag on this remote island of the polar sea." For the information collected, and the hardships endured, in this his last voyage, we refer the reader to Captain Franklin's own most interesting account. We shall only allude to a discovery made very nearly at his own serious expense. He had, in Garry's Island, picked up a piece of wood-coal, and put it into his pocket. In the course of the evening it ignited spontaneously, and scorched the metal powder-horn by his side.

This last expedition was performed in 1825, 26, and 27; and, it was hoped, would have enabled our brave and intelligent countrymen to meet Captain Beechey, who was at the same time navigating Kotzebue's Sound, from the Pacific, and thus have accomplished a survey of the whole northern coast of the American continent. But much as was done, this final desire was not perfected. Yet the approach was so close as to leave nothing of scientific value to be wished for.

"Could I have known, (says Capt. Franklin,) or by possibility imagined, that a party from the Blossom had been at the distance of only one hundred and sixty miles from me, no difficulties, dangers, or discouraging circumstances should have prevailed on me to return: but taking into account the uncertainty of all voyages in a sea obstructed by ice, I had no right to expect that the Blossom had advanced beyond Kotzebue Inlet, or that any party from her had doubled Icy Cape. It is useless now to speculate on the probable result of a proceeding which did not take place; but I may observe, that, had we gone forward as soon as the weather permitted, namely, on the 18th, it is scarcely possible that any changes of circumstances could have enabled us to overtake the Blossom's barge.

"The distance of the coast, traced westward from the mouth of the Mackenzie, was three hundred and seventy-four miles, without discovering in all that space one harbour in which a ship could find shelter. It is, in fact, one of the most dreary, miserable, and uninteresting portions of sea-coast to be found in any part of the world."

On the other side, to the east of Mackenzie's River, (where the expedition divided into two parties, one proceeding eastward under Captain Franklin,) Dr. Richardson traversed five hundred miles; and both together greatly enlarged the bounds of geographical discovery, as well as geology, natural history, and other branches of science.

Of the hardships which attended this journey, though nothing like those of the former, an idea may be formed from the following extract, at the end of the second year, when "owing to the severe extremity of the weather in the months of January and February, the sources from whence they had derived their food failed them. All the animals but the wolf and the fox had migrated to the southward; the stock of dried meat was expended; the fish caught did not allow more than three or four small herrings to each man, and, being out of season, not only afforded very little nourishment, but caused frequent and general indisposition. Under such circumstances they were obliged to have recourse to their provision of pemmican and portable soup, which had been set apart for the voyage along the sea-coast. Towards March, however, their situation began to improve.

"From this period (says the narrative) we had a sufficient supply of provision, because the fisheries improved, and we received deer from time to time. The men who had been indisposed gained strength, from the increased quantity, and amended quality, of the food; and we had also the gratification of seeing the dogs daily fatten, amidst the general plenty. The conduct of the men during the season of scarcity was beyond all praise; and the following anecdote is worthy of record, as displaying the excellent feeling of a British seaman, and as speaking the sentiments of the whole party. Talking with Robert Spinks as to the difference of his present food from that to which he had been accustomed on board ship, I said, I was glad the necessity was over of keeping them on short allowance. 'Why, Sir,' said he, 'we never minded about the short allowance, but were fearful of having to use the pemmican intended for next summer; we only care about the next voyage, and shall all be glad when the spring comes, that we may set off; besides, at the worst time, we could always spare a fish for each of our dogs.'"

On the termination of his second voyage, to the credit of America be it mentioned, one of Captain Franklin's first tributes came from the United States. The Corporation of New York voted to him a copy of the Memoir published by the Committee, on celebrating the completion of the New York canals, and the medal struck on that occasion. A deputation of the Committee presented this token of their admiration. Another proof how highly foreign countries estimate his efforts in the cause of science, occurred when the Geographical Society of Paris voted him their gold medal, value 1200 francs, and constituted him one of their members. On his arrival in England, his Majesty was graciously pleased to confer upon him the honour of knighthood. The University of Oxford likewise gave him the degree of Doctor of Common Law. Captain Sir John Franklin is also Fellow of the Royal and Geological, and a member of the Astronomical Societies. The Wernerian and Philosophical Societies of Bristol have made him an honorary member.

Uniting the enthusiasm of enterprise with the most steady perseverance of purpose, and gifted at once with that energy which communicates its own spirit to the companions of its toils, inspiring them with that reliance which inferiors are so quick in discerning, if it be deserved by their leader; brave, humane, and devoted to his country's service, Captain Franklin may and will be held up as a model to his profession. One circumstance we must mention as especially deserving of praise—the strong attachment he appears to have inspired in all those beneath his command. Self-denial seems to have been his secret; and it was never more evinced than when, at the close of his second voyage, he placed all his hopes under the command of his judgment, and resolved to return. He thus speaks of the enthusiastic confidence of his party: "I felt it was my business to judge of their capacity of so doing, and not to allow myself to be seduced by their ardour, however honorable to them and cheering to me."

Disinterestedness is one of his most honorable characteristics.

After his return home, we have understood, that Sir John Franklin refused the most tempting offers which could detach him from the naval service. Among others, he declined the Australian Commission, at present enjoyed by Captain Parry; and we have reason to know that the sum of £2000 per annum was insufficient to divert him from the path he had marked out for his life to tread.

In 1829, Sir John married a second time, Miss Griffin, a lady of fortune and great accomplishments; and we are sure our readers will join in wishing him that repose in domestic happiness which he has so hardly earned. But his abilities are of too high an order to admit of his country sparing him while yet in the vigour of life. He lately sailed in the command of a noble vessel for the Mediterranean; a station, upon which some of the most important questions which may agitate the political world are likely to be brought to issue, and where it is consequently most expedient to have officers of great skill, tried judgment, conduct, and experience.

Facts, says the old proverb, are stubborn things, and a short summary of the most striking events in his life will be our best panegyric. He was present at the four great naval achievements in the late war: at the battle of Copenhagen—

at that in the Straits of Malacca—at the battle of Trafalgar—and the capture of the American gun-boats. He has made one voyage of discovery to New Holland, during which he suffered shipwreck, and three voyages to the Arctic regions—the second quite unparalleled in the history of human enterprise and human endurance. We give him the highest praise when we say that Captain Franklin's history is even less honorable to himself than it is to his country. With defenders like him, the British flag will still be one which " has braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze."

Engraved by J. Cochran, from an Original Picture, painted for John Gladstone, Esq. of Seaforth House, near Liverpool, by John Graham, Esq. of Edinburgh, three months previous to M^{r}. Huskisson's death.

THE RIGHT HON$^{\text{BLE}}$ WILLIAM HUSKISSON.

W. Huskisson.

FISHER, SON & C^{o}. LONDON, 1831.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

WILLIAM HUSKISSON, M.P.

ETC. ETC. ETC.

WHEN the history of the momentous era in which we have lived shall be written, few names will appear upon its page of higher celebrity, or of more real importance, than that of WILLIAM HUSKISSON. His great advancement in society from a private rank to that of a Cabinet Minister, entrusted with the most essential concerns of the nation, is a sufficient proof that his mind was of no ordinary quality; and the extent of his views on financial and commercial questions, leading as they did to a mighty alteration in the whole system of British policy, demonstrates with equal truth, that he was among the few competent to grapple with the new opinions and the difficulties of the age, and to turn to prosperity and weal, what, under an opposite course, could only have been productive of wretchedness and wo.

That in a country like this, crowded with peculiar and conflicting interests, the principles and measures of Mr. Huskisson, should have been challenged and opposed, was as necessary a consequence as their proposition; but candour must allow, that as existing prejudices died away, they have already proceeded far in the career of conversion, and at length afford a clear prospect of being ultimately acknowledged and adopted as the only true bases of national security, wealth, power, and grandeur.

Of the parentage of this eminent man, we cannot give a more correct and concise account, than was contained in the public journals, soon after the dreadful accident which removed him from his influential sphere of usefulness in this world.

Mr. Huskisson's father, William, was the second son of William Huskisson, Esq., of Oxley, near Wolverhampton; who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Rotton, Esq., of an old and respectable family in Staffordshire. On his marriage, he hired a residence with an extensive farm at Birch Moreton, in Worcestershire, and his eldest son, the late William Huskisson, was born at Birch Moreton Court, on the 11th of March, 1770. Mr. and Mrs. Huskisson had three other sons, and she died soon after giving birth to the youngest, in 1774: Mr. Huskisson's elder brother having also died about this time unmarried, he quitted Worcestershire, returning to his father at Oxley, and, succeeding to that property, continued to reside upon it till his death, in 1790.

Of his family by his first wife, besides the subject of this Memoir, Richard, the second son, died at Guadaloupe, in 1794, a surgeon in the army; Samuel is the present General Huskisson; and Charles, the youngest, resides near Birmingham. By a second wife, whom he married after a lapse of time, Mr. Huskisson had also several children, the eldest of whom is Captain Thomas Huskisson, of the Royal Navy.

On the death of his mother, William, not then five years old, was placed in an infant school at Brewood, in Staffordshire; when older, removed to Albrighton; and lastly, to Appleby, in Leicestershire, where he gave evident promise of the talents by which he has since been so memorably distinguished.

Arrived at the age of between twelve and thirteen, (in 1783,) William, and his brother Richard, were committed to the charge of Dr. Gem, their mother's uncle, a gentleman highly esteemed, as well for his medical skill, as for his other scientific and literary acquirements. He had accompanied the Duke of Bedford on the embassy to France in 1792-3; and the society of the men of letters with whom he mixed, and the great facilities which Paris then afforded for the researches of science, decided him to fix his residence in that capital and its vicinity, paying occasional visits to his friends in England, and to his small family estate in Worcestershire, which at his decease, in 1800, he bequeathed to Mr. Huskisson. Dr Gem always felt great interest in the children of his favourite niece, and having expressed a wish, in consequence of the second marriage contracted by their father, that the two eldest boys should be intrusted to his care, they were permitted to accompany him on his return to Paris.

Dr. Gem superintended the education of his relatives with the utmost solicitude; and from the unassuming and bashful character of William, it must have been fortunate for him to have been confided to so kind and fostering a hand. As the greater part of the Staffordshire estate was entailed upon him, there was no necessity for his adopting a profession; and it appears that, in whatever way his studies were directed, he was neither a medical student nor a banker's clerk, as has been very erroneously reported. On the contrary, the stirring and extraordinary character of the scenes by which he was surrounded, and the private circumstances in which he was placed, his uncle being the intimate friend of Dr. Franklin, seem to have given him that impulse to politics, which became the occupation of his life, and the source of the proud distinction he attained.

With all the natural fervour of youth, he joined the cause of liberty, yet unstained by the atrocities committed in its holy name; and looked forward with enthusiasm to that dazzling prospect, which was to cover the universal globe with happiness, and realize the dreams of poetry. His time to be a philosopher had not arrived; and the reserved boy started at once into the warm assertor of the people's rights. He was present at the taking of the Bastile, at which time he was nineteen, and it was about that period he became distinguished by his speech at the "*quatre vingt neuf*," not the Jacobin Club, to which latter he never did belong. His speech at the "*quatre vingt neuf*" is extant, and the subject of it is the policy of an additional issue of assignats, treated in a manner which would not have disgraced the mature experience of the speaker. So far from being jacobinical, the only approach to liberalism in this address is, a recommendation to meet the wants of the state, not by the issue of a depreciated paper, but by the sale of national property.

But events speedily took place, which diverted him from this course, and from all connexion with those whose love of freedom soon degenerated into a rage for revolution. He received the offer of becoming private secretary to Lord Gower, (now Marquis of Stafford,) the British Ambassador at Paris; an office for which he was singularly eligible, from his being a perfect master of the French language, and intimately acquainted with the state of parties in France, their schemes, their intricacies, and their strength.

Having accepted this appointment, Mr. Huskisson became a member of the Ambassador's family, and a resident in his hotel; thus laying the foundations of the powerful friendship with which his Lordship and the Countess of Sutherland continued to honor him for nearly forty years. Upon the return of Lord Gower to England, in 1792, Mr. Huskisson accompanied him, and continued to pass the greater part of his time with his Lordship, and in his society. Soon after, Mr. Dundas expressed to Lord Gower his wish to select some gentleman of abilities, who was intimately conversant with the French tongue, in order to assist in the projected arrangement of an office for the affairs of the emigrants, who had taken refuge in England. Lord Gower immediately mentioned Mr. Huskisson as being highly qualified for the situation; which Mr. Dundas then offered, and he accepted, early in 1793.

The previous habits in which Mr. Huskisson had been engaged, and the great expansion of his mind, had unfitted him for following the example of the former members of his family, who had for so many years resided upon their own property, and he felt disinclined to the quiet life of a country gentleman. His father had been obliged to alienate a considerable part of his property, in order to make provision for his younger children, (of whom he left eight by his two marriages,) and his eldest son inherited only the entailed property at Oxley, the adjoining lands and the advowson of the parish of Bushbury having been directed to be sold. These and other circumstances induced

Mr. Huskisson to take measures for cutting off the entail, to sell his landed property, and to devote himself to official life.

Nor could he have come to a more prudent and fortunate determination. Already had his talents secured the approbation and regard of those most competent appreciators of political abilities, Mr. Pitt and Mr. Dundas; and, among other lights of the age, had united him in a friendship with Mr. Canning, which never met the slightest interruption till death dissevered the tie. The unreserved confidence that always existed between these two great men, affords not only a fine example of virtue and constancy amid the vicissitudes and collisions of the public service, but it produced very marked consequences in the administration of the government. Each confirmed each, in the wisdom and expediency of measures to be proposed; and the cool head of Huskisson, master of every view of figures and calculation, was not less effective on these occasions, than the eloquent voice of Canning; both being gifted with profound judgment, and minds of the most comprehensive order.

In the year 1795, Mr. Huskisson succeeded Mr. Nepean, as Under Secretary of State in the Colonial department, the seals of which were then held by Mr. Dundas; and was brought into parliament for the town of Morpeth, under the auspices of Mr. Pitt, which borough he continued to represent till the dissolution in 1802, though he had resigned his situation on the retirement of the Pitt ministry, in 1801. At the general election he stood for Dover; but, after a severe contest, during five days, declined proceeding; his opponents, Messrs. Trevannion and Spencer Smith being ahead on the poll, the former 200, and the latter 68 votes. His farewell address was so conciliatory and handsome, that it won him the admiration even of his adversaries. He remained out of parliament till 1804; when, Mr. Pitt and his friends returning to power, the succession of the Hon. John Elliot to the peerage opened to him the representation of Liskeard, which he carried, after a close contest with Mr. Thomas Sheridan, and was appointed Joint Secretary of the Treasury, together with Mr. Sturges

Bourne. For this borough he was again elected in 1806.* On the death of Mr. Pitt, in this year, Mr. Huskisson again relinquished office; and was, during the short administration of Lord Grenville and Mr. Fox, a member of the opposition.

In 1807 he returned to his post at the Treasury, Mr. Canning having been appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and, in 1809, when that gentleman quitted the government, Mr. Huskisson followed him, and did not again accept office till Mr. Canning was appointed to the embassy to Portugal in 1814, when he became First Commissioner of Woods and Land Revenue. He remained in that situation till 1823, when he succeeded Mr. Robinson (now Lord Goderich) in the offices of Treasurer of the Navy and President of the Board of Trade, and was shortly after called to a seat in the cabinet. On the death of Mr. Canning, and the formation of Lord Goderich's administration, Mr. Huskisson again succeeded his Lordship, and became Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, the seals of which he held till the appointment of Sir George Murray in May, 1828.

Mr. Huskisson also held for some years the valuable Colonial Agency for the island of Ceylon; but, in 1823, considering it incompatible with his other situations, he relinquished the office.

Having traced the official appointments, and the elections to parliament, of Mr. Huskisson, it becomes our duty to cast a cursory glance over the principal events which illustrated either career. Etiquette and the discipline of office prevent the inferior members of government from being frequent speakers in the House, or delivering their opinions upon the great questions which are brought into discussion; and, in this respect, able men on the side of opposition enjoy many advantages of popular distinction above contemporaries of higher talents, who happen to be trammelled by the considerations to which we have alluded.

We find, accordingly, that throughout the earlier years of his parliamentary life, Mr. Huskisson spoke but little, though, in his ministerial capacity, he furnished the organs of the Cabinet with a large proportion of the financial details, on the soundness and accuracy of which their measures and their exposition so mainly depended. When he did speak, the clearness with which he stated the most intricate subjects, and the perfect simplicity of his address, always commanded attention; and he was listened to as a man whose arguments, if not approved, it would be very difficult to combat. By this means he gradually advanced, acquiring additional weight in the House of Commons; and a number of his speeches, at a later period, displayed various and extensive powers, which it would have been rash to predicate even from the promise of his former fame. His reasoning was always cogent; but it required time and practice to render him so formidable in the satire and other engines of oratory, with which he was ultimately wont to embellish and enforce his opinions. It was thus he replied to the motion of Colonel Wardle for retrenchment in the army and navy, when the brightest dawn of success rose upon the British arms, in the mortal struggle in which we were engaged. But, though he condemned the wild projects of innovation to paralyze our strength, he was, throughout his whole course, the advocate for economy, and the reform of real evils—in office, by suggesting plans to the executive; and, out of office, by a straight-forward, constitutional, and persevering, yet not by a vexatious and harassing parliamentary opposition.

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* His other parliamentary seats were Harwich, 1807; Chichester, 1812 to 1823; and, finally, Liverpool, where he succeeded Mr. Canning.

On the celebrated Bullion question, Mr. Huskisson took a prominent share; and, as one of the Committee, as well as by his pen, contributed much to the prevalence of the doctrine, that a return to cash payments was absolutely necessary for the credit and prosperity of the kingdom. His pamphlet on this subject (though he wavered slightly in 1815) is, indeed, a work of prodigious information; but, on the question itself, we do not feel qualified to pronounce a judgment.

Upon the Corn Laws also, Mr. Huskisson must be considered one of the highest authorities; and while we often read in newspapers, and other periodicals, the loudest charges against him as the supporter of the Free Trade system, which these writers are pleased to deprecate, it is worth while to notice, that he contended strenuously against the free importation of grain, on the ground that the reciprocity principles, however sound in the abstract, were inapplicable in the complexity of our artificial state.

His exertions in the Finance Committee of 1819, and in the debates which ensued, probably saved the ministry from being overthrown; and his principal speech upon the occasion was one of so extraordinary a character, as to excite a vivid sensation throughout the political world. It has justly been said of it, that his masterly detail, on taking his stand between the combatants, went through the financial revisions of the several continental states, as though the management of each exchequer had been under his own control; and while he did not disguise our embarrassments, but insisted upon the sole remedy of retrenchment and economy, he forbade the country to despair, and pointed out the path, which, if pursued, must lead to future security and happiness.

In our Commercial relations, the objects subsequently carried by Mr. Huskisson as a minister of the crown, have been, and are, of immense importance, although the many individual and private interests which were implicated, whether in the continuance of monopolies or the enjoyment of lucrative privileges, exposed him to the clamour of many loud tongues, in the midst of the very general applause, which hailed him on these same points as an oracle of national wisdom. With regard to the silk trade, he showed that the inferiority of our manufactures was owing to the absence of competition, as we excluded foreign goods by our heavy duties, which yet did not protect our own, in consequence of the temptations they held out to successful smuggling.

His alterations in our Colonial system were still more momentous; for in 1825 he opened the trade of the colonies (hitherto confined to the parent state,) to all other countries navigating in direct intercourse, either in ships of their own, or in those of the colonies to which they were bound. And in many other ways he relaxed or threw off the shackles which cramped and limited the interchange of commodities. On some he reduced our import duties,—duties imposed not with a view to revenue, but to give monopoly, under the name of protection, to the home producer, and which were of course met by counter-prohibitions in foreign countries. By entering into the history of commerce, he demonstrated, that those articles of manufacture which had been most fostered, had most languished ; that excessive duties made the lawless and desperate smuggler's fortunes, at the same time demoralizing a numerous class of people, while the manufacturer was disappointed, the fair trader ruined, and the exchequer cheated; and that the true policy of the state, and the real advantage of those immediately concerned, would be best consulted by reducing those duties to what was merely sufficient to counteract whatever might be imposed on the importation of the raw material used in the respective manufactories of every kind and description.

In the Navigation Laws, Mr. Huskisson, in the same spirit, caused considerable relaxations to be made; and when this increased the outcry against him, he manfully challenged the impugners of his "Free Trade" to come forward with their plan to show the superiority of their "Fettered Trade."

In our rapid sketch of Mr. Huskisson's political life, we brought it down to 1828, when he was succeeded as Colonial Secretary by Sir George Murray. Anxious to superintend till they had reaped the maturity of a fair trial, those great measures to which we have succinctly alluded, and on the fruition of which he believed the prosperity of England to depend, Mr. Huskisson had, at the dissolution of Lord Goderich's ministry, accepted of office under the premiership of the Duke of Wellington. It does not appear, however, that his Grace was quite cordial in this co-operation; at least a mistake on the interpretation of his colleague's opinions respecting the Corn Bill, by which it was virtually thrown out by the Peers, showed a difference of views, or a misunderstanding, on that important subject. But, whatever were the real wishes of the Premier, a circumstance occurred, which led to an abrupt and no very ceremonious separation between him and Mr. Huskisson.

In a debate on the 19th of May, 1828, on the proposed disfranchisement of East Retford, Mr. Huskisson being called on to redeem a former pledge, felt himself in honor constrained to divide against his colleagues; and on this dilemma wrote an explanatory letter to the Head of the administration, in which he stated that if his conduct in this particular rendered it necessary, he was prepared to place his office at his Grace's disposal. The Duke immediately acted upon this as an absolute resignation, and, in despite of a correspondence which ensued, insisted peremptorily on his own construction of the terms, so that Mr. Huskisson had no alternative but to retire. Without offering an opinion upon the matter, we may remark, that by the dismissal of his most efficient colleague, a man so much looked up to by the country as at once a practical and liberal statesman, the Duke of Wellington struck a severe blow against the strength of his own position. When the attack came by which he was overwhelmed, the want of the aid, which the party with whom Mr. Huskisson acted would have afforded him, precipitated the fall of his ministry.

After leaving office, in the sessions 1828-9, Mr. Huskisson delivered luminous speeches on the East India trade and in favour of free intercourse, on the Roman Catholic Bill, on the shipping interests, on the Colonial reciprocity system, on the necessity of strengthening the Canadas, on the expediency of reducing the duties on sugar, on emigration as a relief to the mother country, and other questions of paramount interest. He also supported Lord Palmerston in his motion on Portugal, (March 10th, 1830,) and maintained that the line pursued by the successors of Mr. Canning was discreditable and unjust; and he farther spoke in their behalf, on Mr. Charles Grant's motion in favour of the Jews.

On the dissolution of Parliament, his health, which had been for some time fluctuating, and had previously required a trip to the Continent, was so much affected, that he could not attend at his re-election for Liverpool. But the repose of a short sojournment in the Isle of Wight, released from ministerial toils, and the burdens of parliamentary application to the most important subjects, restored him so much, that he resolved in the early part of September to visit his constituents, and assist at the grand ceremony of opening the Liverpool and Manchester Railway. At Liverpool he was received with enthusiasm, and addressed the multitude assembled to swell his triumph in a speech in which he enforced his well-known principles respecting free trade, &c., and appealed to the prosperous condition of Liverpool itself, in proof of their incontrovertibility.

Only two days after (Oh the uncertainty of human hopes and existence!) the fatal accident occurred, which deprived Liverpool of his services, and his country of his counsels, for ever. On the particulars of this dreadful event it would be painful to dwell; and as we cannot draw a more modest, just, and unaffected picture of its bearings, than is contained in the brief memoir which a well-informed friend published, in order to correct the floating mis-statements of the press, we shall offer no apology for transcribing his words.

He says of the esteemed and lamented Mr. Huskisson—"His commercial measures are often before the world; and even those who have not been converted to his liberal views of policy, admit the integrity of his intentions; whilst no higher testimony can be offered to his private worth, than the almost universal regret and sorrow manifested for his loss. The energies of his powerful mind were not subdued under the agonizing sufferings of his closing hours, and the clearness and self-possession with which he performed the last duties of a man and a Christian, excited the astonishment and admiration of all who surrounded him at that awful moment. Those who knew him most can best bear testimony to the perfect truth and sincerity of his dying declaration, 'that he expired at peace with all mankind.'"

On the same unquestionable authority it is added, "His long acquaintance with the Duke of Wellington, and the recollection which he retained of several kind offices received from him, had always kept alive, in Mr. Huskisson's mind, notwithstanding the political misunderstandings which had arisen between them, sentiments of private regard towards his Grace, which made him most ready to follow the Duke's example in continuing towards each other the usual courtesies of society. Upon the occasion of the Duke of Wellington's visit to Liverpool, when he was to receive the freedom of that town, voted to him many years since for his transcendent military services, Mr. Huskisson naturally felt that, from his connexion with Liverpool, he was more especially called upon to pay to his Grace every mark of respect and attention, and, actuated by these feelings, he was induced to go in front of the car to shake hands with the Duke of Wellington, at the time when a pause had occurred in the procession of the carriages on the railway. His return into the car was thereby delayed, and to this delay is to be attributed the fatal accident which caused his death. That such only were his feelings, prompted by no political motives, his intimate friends will perfectly understand; for more than one of them well knew his determination not again to accept office under the Duke of Wellington. It is proper to state, that to Mr. Huskisson himself, his Grace had never made the slightest overture for any political reconciliation since 1828."

Mr. Huskisson's leg and thigh being horribly lacerated by the wheel of the engine passing over them, as the unfortunate gentleman lay upon the road, his sufferings were most appalling. His melancholy fate was witnessed by his wife, whose shriek of agony none that heard (says an eye-witness of the circumstances) will ever forget. He was removed, as carefully and speedily as possible, amid the confusion and distress, to Eccles, where, in the house of the vicar, Mr. Blackburn, after partaking of the holy sacrament, and making a few slight alterations in his Will, he breathed his last at five minutes past nine o'clock, on Wednesday, September 15, 1830. The admirable fortitude with which he endured the tortures of his frame, and the calmness with which he met his end, have been described, in most affecting language, by the medical attendants, and by his friends who were present. Mrs. Huskisson, with the resolution which calamity and danger so often inspire in the tender and delicate breast of woman, remained with her beloved husband to the last; when, nature yielding to the overwhelming power of affliction, she was almost by force separated from the dead.

We need not particularize the sitting of the inquest—the signs of mourning observed at Liverpool, and other places near the scene of this melancholy event—the ceremony of the public funeral in the centre of the New Cemetery at Liverpool—the contents of the Will—nor all the other minutiæ, which fill up the usual measure of biographical details. But before allotting a sentence to his domestic history, we may repeat* of his public character, that the secret of his oratory lay in the facility with which he could bring a number of facts to bear upon his argument, and in the soundness and comprehensiveness of his views. He was not an opponent with whom it was difficult to grapple, for he disdained all slippery arts of avoiding an antagonist; but he was one whom the stoutest champion found it impossible to throw. To the matter-of-fact arguer, Mr. Huskisson could present an accumulation of details sufficient to stagger the most practical; while to him who looked to rules rather than cases, he could offer general principles, conceived in so enlarged a spirit, that even in his unadorned communication of them, they rose to sublimity. Nothing could be finer than the splendid perorations of his more elaborate speeches. With such powers, what would have been his influence in the House of Commons, about to assemble at the period of his death? what effect would his presence have had on the great political questions which so soon occupied its attention, and on the shape of those changes which almost immediately ensued? The answer is beyond our sphere; but we may safely assert, that, had he not been removed by an over-ruling Providence, so eminent was his station, and so commanding his talent, they must have produced a striking difference in the turn of affairs, and consequently in the destinies of Britain and the world.

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* See Annual Biography for 1831: a most impartial and excellent work.

In private life, Mr. Huskisson evinced the same mildness and affability that distinguished him in public employment. There was a charming quietude in his general manner; and it was only when stimulated by inquiry or conversation, that the ample stores of his rich mind were poured forth, or the animation of social intercourse was elicited.

On April 6, 1799, Mr. Huskisson married Eliza Emily, the youngest daughter of Admiral Milbanke; but has left no family.

In 1800 he purchased the villa of Eartham, about five miles from Chichester, from Hayley the poet, which he enlarged with an estate of five or six hundred acres, and adorned in an elegant style, making it his Sabine farm from the cares of state, when his heavy official duties permitted this indulgence. Here he maintained that community with his Chichester constituents, which so greatly endeared him to that respectable and independent body of electors.

We have only to add, that our Portrait is, by his kind permission, engraved from an original picture of John Gladstone, Esq. (one of his most influential and stedfast friends, as he had been before of the illustrious George Canning,) by John Graham, Esq. of Edinburgh, three months previous to Mr. Huskisson's lamented death.

At Parkside, near Newton, where this fatal accident occurred, a tablet of white marble, bearing the following inscription, has been erected, to commemorate this melancholy event.

> "THIS TABLET,
>
> A tribute of personal respect and affection, has been placed here, to mark the spot where, on the 15th of Sept. 1830, the day of the opening of this Railroad,
>
> The Right Honorable William Huskisson, M.P.
>
> (Singled out by the decree of an inscrutable Providence, from the midst of the distinguished multitude that surrounded him) in the full pride of his talents, and the perfection of his usefulness, met with the accident that occasioned his death, which deprived England of an illustrious Statesman, and Liverpool of its most honored Representative; which changed a moment of the noblest exultation and triumph that science and genius had ever achieved, into one of desolation and mourning; and, striking terror into the hearts of assembled thousands, brought home to every bosom the forgotten truth, that—'In the midst of life we are in death.'"

Painted by Sir Thos. Lawrence. Engraved by G. Parker.

EDWARD LAW, LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

Ellenborough

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1831.

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD LAW,

BARON ELLENBOROUGH,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

THE family of the LAWS, to which the late Lord Ellenborough was so distinguished an ornament, did not emerge from the humbler ranks of society, till his father, Dr. Edmund Law, was consecrated Bishop of Carlisle, in the year 1768. Previous to this, however, the learned and pious prelate had attracted great esteem and honor, both at Cambridge as a scholar, and in the Church as a divine, having published several religious tracts of the most benevolent and virtuous tendency. He was the son of a beneficed clergyman, and born at Cartmel, in Lancashire, though his progenitors belonged to the county of Westmorland, where they had long lived in the unnoted quiet of private life.

EDWARD LAW, the fourth son of the Bishop of Carlisle, by a daughter of John Christian, Esq. of Unerigg, Cumberland, was born in 1750, at Great Salkeld in that county. At Battsam, near Cambridge, where his uncle, the Rev. Humphry Christian, resided, he imbibed all the elements of early education, and displayed that precocity of talent which afforded fair promise of the eminence he was destined to attain. At the age of twelve, he was, by his father's influence, placed on the establishment of the Charter-house, and there continued to prosecute his studies with undiminished success, till 1768, when he removed to St. Peter's College, Cambridge, of which the Bishop of Carlisle had not only been a member in his youth, but master in 1756. With this high paternal example before him, with every thing to stimulate to emulation, and with a mind naturally of the most vigorous character, and already largely cultivated; it may readily be believed, that Mr. Edward Law applied himself sedulously to perfect the superstructure, the foundations of which he had so auspiciously laid. Accordingly, in 1771, he gained one of the Chancellor's medals; and two years later, carried off one of the Member's prizes, and ranked as Senior Bachelor.

He also took his first degree with much eclat, and soon after entered at Lincoln's Inn, having chosen the profession designated by his name, and in which his name will long be respected. He, consequently, entered upon the line of a Special Pleader, took pupils, and for a period practised (as the phrase is) under the Bar. Out of this course, great future advantages arose, not only in the formation of connexions with a wide circle of wealthy clients, but in the acquisition of a thorough practical knowledge of the various branches of legislation, upon which he was to be first the advocate and then the judge. But, emulous of more public fame, Mr. Law determined to quit his chambers for the court; and having been called to the Bar, he chose the Northern Circuit as the field of his enterprise. In the North the estimation of his venerable parent had paved the way for his favourable debut, and his own abilities were well calculated to "improve the occasion." Yet so much does the advancement of a Barrister depend upon time and chance, that it was not till Messrs. Lee and Wallace, the then leaders of the circuit, and in succession Attorney-Generals, retired from the reaping of their rich harvest, that the subject of our Memoir began to assert the prerogative justly due to his very superior attainments. When the opening was made, however, he and Mr. Scott (the illustrious Lord High Chancellor of England for many years of difficulty and peril) took the foremost rank in their turn; and the lucrative and aggrandizing practice of this circuit was almost monopolized by them. *Sic itur ad astra.*

From the business of the North sprang its usual proportion of business in Town; and Mr. Law, in the fulness of faculty and intellect—employed upon important cases in the Court of King's Bench, where Mansfield presided, whence Dunning was retreating, and where Erskine was only dawning into celebrity—speedily gave proof of the sterling stuff of which he was made. "The first cause in which he distinguished himself, (says the Annual Obituary, 1819, and we believe correctly,) is said to have sprung out of a question of Insurance; and as this occurred at Guildhall, much city business followed of course." A silk gown, obtained through the friendship of Judge Buller, accelerated his career; and though it is hinted that Lord Kenyon, when he became Chief Justice of the King's Bench, looked coldly on the aspiring Barrister, yet it was evident to all shrewd observers, that he was most likely to urge his way to the topmost seat, in spite of frowns, of disapproval, or of competition. It is a memorable circumstance, that he who was to become the Jove of this legal sphere, was wont to allude in open court to the presumed hostility of Lord Kenyon, by exclaiming "*Et Jupiter hostis;*"—Lord Kenyon, however, was not so much of the Jupiter, whose nod was law, as his successor who thus admonished him.

A remarkable political event and constitutional trial, in the year 1785, brought into full play and exercise all the intellectual powers and capacity of Mr. Law. We allude to the impeachment of Warren Hastings, whose counsel he was selected to be. This splendid task Mr. Erskine had declined; and, with Mr. Plomer and Mr. Dallas, he had to sustain the whole weight of such accusers as Burke, Fox, and Sheridan, aided by a mass of experience and talent, which even without those leaders might have appalled the boldest heart. But from the first to the last, he met the accusations with the firmest resistance. Assertion he repelled with assertion; for allegations he demanded proofs; and above all things he took his stand on a criminal, and, as it might be, a capital charge against those parliamentary usages that would deprive the accused of the same means of defence, which the law allowed to the guiltiest of the guilty in the courts below. Upon this, his arguments were so warm and zealous, that the High Court of Parliament asserted its dignity by calling him to order—a ceremony which is sometimes performed, after the party so called to order has said and done all he desired to go to the tribunal or the public. In truth, a skilful and even a pertinacious debater knows well how to baffle this formula; which is undoubtedly necessary to check outrage, but is rarely of any effect to prevent the utterance either of disagreeable truths or offensive misrepresentations.

In the fifth year of this memorable case, Mr. Law was enabled to enter upon his client's defence; and whether we consider the complexity and extent of the inquiry, the clashing of the evidence, the bitterness and the extraordinary force arrayed on the side of the accusers, the interests at stake, the public anxiety, or the multitude of conflicting opinions to which it had given rise, it must be acknowledged that his exertions were worthy of the occasion. In his conclusion he drew a splendid picture of the virtues of the ex-Governor-General, and painted him as "an injured, persecuted man; pure, spotless, and unstained;" a character which, making due allowances for human frailties and imperfections, has been pretty nearly sanctioned by the voice of the succeeding generation.

The result of this brilliant as well as solid effort was a great increase of professional reputation, and an overflow of that practice which had been restricted by devotedness to so engrossing a defence. Mr. Law ran rapidly on, till in 1801, when, on a change of Ministry the offices of Attorney and Solicitor General were vacated, he was at once appointed to the former eminent and onerous situation. He was at the same time knighted, and, as Sir Edward Law, discharged the duties of his trust, during its short continuance, with that measure of combined firmness and forbearance, which united all suffrages in his praise.

On the death of Lord Kenyon, his "*Jupiter hostis*," in 1802, he was nominated to be his successor, and took his seat as Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, with the title of Baron Ellenborough, of Ellenborough in the County of Cumberland. His patent was dated April 10th, 1802, and the title derived from a small fishing-village, near which his ancestors had lived for many generations, under the provincial appellation of "Statesmen;"—in their case, meaning reputable yeomanry or copy-holders, probably without a dream of the Statesman and Judge who was to issue from their stock.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

In the Court of King's Bench the abilities of Lord Ellenborough were prominently displayed: and we well remember the doubts, so oft repeated, that when he ceased to fill that place, it would not be possible to replenish it with his like again. This, however, can only be stated as an evidence of the exalted opinion entertained of him; for it is the glory and the strength of this country, as the tide of time sweeps the wisest and the best to their graves, to find an everlasting succession of talent fit to encounter all emergencies, and to occupy the most important stations with honor to themselves, and advantage to the community.

The promptitude, the acuteness, and the legal knowledge of Lord Ellenborough, stamped his decisions with great authority; and, without particularizing any of the political struggles which troubled the time, and gave rise to various sentiments, as party seemed to be advanced, or faction thrown back, by the determinations of the courts of law, we will venture to say, that a man of stronger mind or more perfect integrity never pronounced a judgment. The warmth of his temper was perhaps the only foible which could truly be imputed to him as a fault; and this, it must be allowed, was occasionally observable both in his judicial and political course.

Of the latter we shall now say a few words. When the famous "Talents" administration came into power, the Lord Chief Justice was made a Cabinet Minister, and appointed to a place which gave him a certain control over the receipts of the Exchequer. This was held by many to be an unconstitutional act, and was reprobated by the opponents of the Government, as an improper union of the judicial and political character. The latter, however, did not long exist, to impeach the former.

As a Peer in Parliament, Lord Ellenborough frequently took a share in the debates. He strenuously opposed the concession of fresh privileges to the Roman Catholics; and on the trial of Lord Melville, concurred in finding that nobleman guilty on six of the charges. It was upon the latter occasion that an untoward dispute arose between him and the Lord Chancellor, which was happily stopped in seasonable time by the good humour of the latter. Upon the Catholic claims, when a petition was presented by Lord Grenville in their favour, in 1805, his Lordship thus expressed his opinions:—

"The question now before us is not a question of toleration in the enjoyment and exercise of civil and religious rights, but of the grant of political power. All that toleration can require in respect to civil and religious immunities, has long been satisfied in its most enlarged extent." And his Lordship thus concluded a very impressive and very able speech. "I feel it my duty, my Lords, now and for ever, as long as the Catholic religion shall maintain its ecclesiastical and spiritual union with the See of Rome, to resist, to the utmost of my power, this and every other proposition which is calculated to produce the undoing and overthrow of all that our fathers have regarded, and ourselves have felt and known, to be the most venerable and useful of our establishments, both in church and state." When we reflect upon the parentage of the noble speaker, we can be at no loss to account for the fervour of these sentiments; and when we look at the results of the measures thus vainly opposed, as unhappily exemplified by the present agitated and threatening state of Ireland, we must also confess with Lord Ellenborough, at the distance of a quarter of a century, that conceding the question involved a "grant of political power," and a power likely to be most dangerously employed.

Lord Ellenborough was one of the Commissioners nominated to investigate the conduct of the Princess of Wales; and when the libellous and venal press began to raise its hundred rumours and scandals on that subject, his Lordship delivered his memorable speech, in which he declared the accusation against the Commissioners to be "as false as hell in every part:" this was a strong expression, but not more strong, perhaps, than an indignant spirit, conscious of its own rectitude, might be allowed to use in any, or even the most august assembly upon earth.

For some months previous to his relinquishment of all his judicial functions in 1818, Lord Ellenborough's health had been visibly broken; and it is thought that the fatigues and issue of the trials of Hone, where the Jury found verdicts in opposition to his charges, had a considerable effect upon his declining vigour. Hone's Parodies, entitled "The late John Wilkes's Catechism," "The Political Litany," and "The Sinecurist's Creed," were prosecuted as impious and profane libels; and his Lordship, with that respect for the Protestant religion of the country, which, as we have seen, animated him on other occasions, held them distinctly to be so, and appealed to the Jury as Christians, to decide accordingly. The cases occupied two days, and, in all, the Jury declared the defendant "Not Guilty;" his Lordship evincing not only much displeasure at so unexpected a result—but extreme lassitude, from the application he had bestowed upon the trials, while evidently labouring under severe indisposition. Yet he afterwards appeared several times in court, and evinced no lack of mental energy. But the final hour was approaching, and on Sunday, the 13th of December, 1818, his Lordship breathed his last.

His frame was masculine, and his countenance fine. His eye was penetrating, and his expression equally striking, whether exhibiting the severity of the judge, or the suavity of the accomplished gentleman. His advancement was (as we have observed) exceedingly rapid, but the preceding path had been trodden with care and diligence. Thus, though it has been said, that in speed he proved far more fortunate than a Mansfield, a Kenyon, an Eldon, or a Thurlow, it must also be remembered that his original merits consisted in long application and painful study, in a bold and manly address, in a most discriminating intellect, in an utter contempt of fear, in a nervous eloquence, and in a feeling of that superiority which is sure to command success.

In 1789, his Lordship married Anne, the daughter of Captain George Philip Towry, R.N., and on the maternal side descended from the famous Sir Thomas More, by whom he had a numerous family of sons and daughters. Of these we may mention Edward his successor, the present Peer; and Charles-Ewan, King's Counsel, who has just been elected, after an honorable course at the bar, to the responsible office of Common Sergeant of the City of London. Two also of his Lordship's brothers have risen to high dignities in the church. John the eldest died Bishop of Elphin; and the country has yet the happiness to possess in George Henry, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, one of the most valuable prelates that now adorn the episcopal bench.

We thus see the rise of a family, which it may be expected will call on future biographers (whose labours will be far more comprehensive than ours) to trace their high lineage through succeeding generations; and point to the example of their founder, as a stimulus to the cultivation of noble endowments, and to the passage of no ignoble life.

The following Letter from His LATE MAJESTY, was addressed to LORD ELLENBOROUGH, upon his Retirement from the Office of Chief Justice of England:—

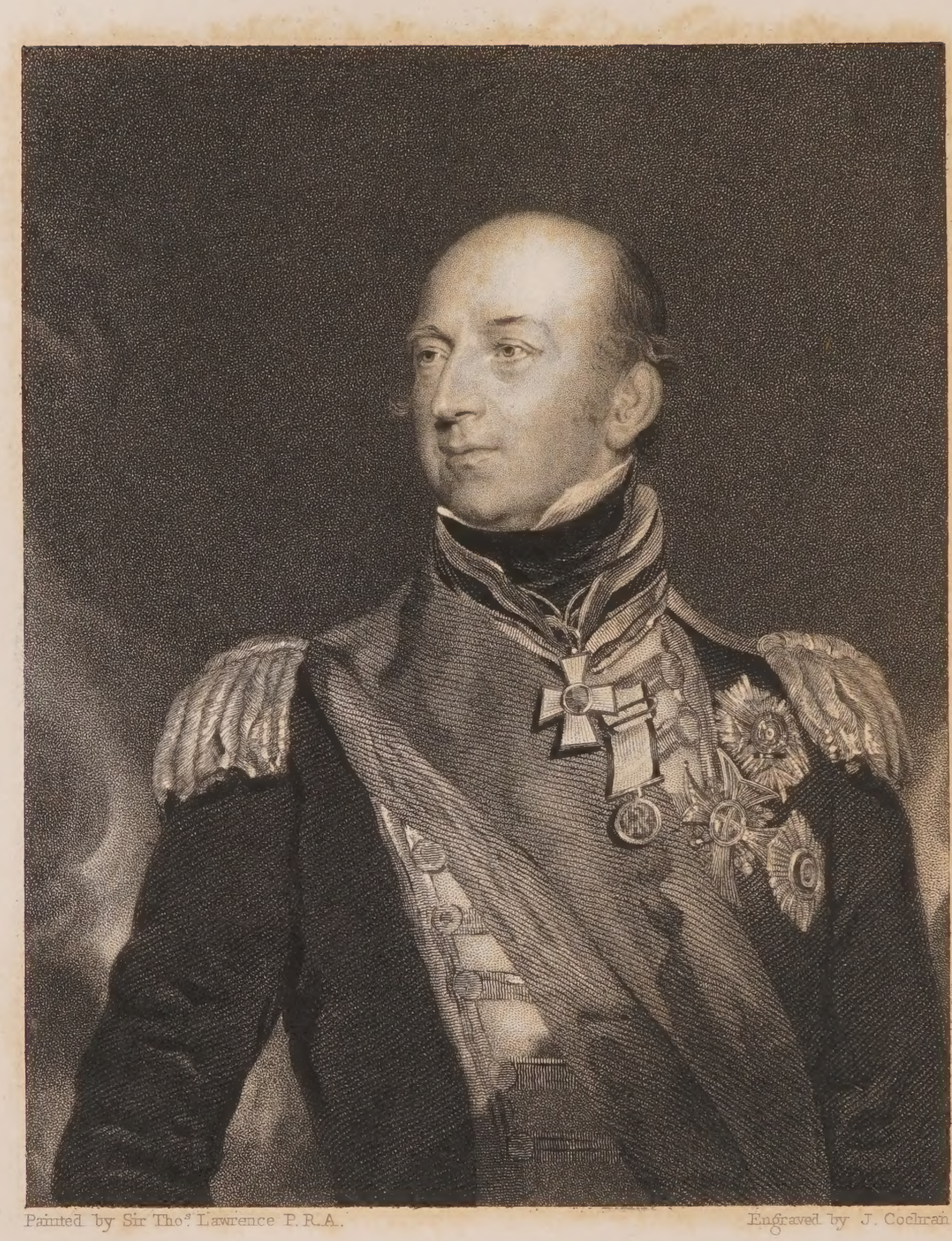
MY DEAR FRIEND,

I HAVE only this moment been informed of your arrival in town, and I cannot suffer it to pass without conveying to you the heartfelt grief with which I received from the Chancellor, a few days ago, his report of the melancholy necessity, under which you have found yourself, of tendering your resignation, and of your retiring from public life.

As to my own private feelings upon this most sad occasion, I will not attempt their expression, indeed that would be quite impossible; but, as a public man, I do not hesitate most distinctly to state, that it is the heaviest calamity, above all in our present circumstances, that could have befallen the country. My Lord, your career, since the moment you took your seat, and presided in the high court committed to your charge, can admit of but one sentiment, and but of one opinion: it has been glorious to yourself, and most beneficial to the nation; you have afforded an example, combining wisdom with every other talent and virtue which exalt your character, and place it beyond all praise.—With these sentiments, and such a picture before me, where can I hope to find, or where can I look for that individual who shall not leave a blank still, in that great machine of which you were the main-spring and brightest ornament. If however, my dear Friend, there can be consolation for us under such afflicting circumstances, that consolation is, that you carry with you into your retirement, the veneration, gratitude, and admiration of the good, and the unbounded love and affection of those who have had the happiness of associating more intimately with you in private life. I confess that the magnitude of the loss we are about to sustain presses so heavily upon me, that I have not the power of adding more, than that my constant and most fervent wishes for your health, comfort, and happiness, will ever attend you, and that I remain always,

My dear Lord, your most sincere and affectionate Friend,

Carlton House, Oct. 18, 1818. (*Signed*) GEORGE P. R.



Painted by Sir Tho^{s} Lawrence P.R.A.

Engraved by J. Cochran.

SIR EDWARD CODRINGTON, G.C.B &c. &c.

VICE ADMIRAL OF THE WHITE.

Edw^{d} Codrington

FISHER, SON & C^{o} LONDON, 1830.

VICE-ADMIRAL

SIR EDWARD CODRINGTON,

G.C.B. ETC.

Sir Edward Codrington, the subject of these memoirs, is descended from a very old and highly celebrated family, to which fresh lustre is added by the character and professional services of this distinguished officer. England has had many sons as brave, many as warmly and disinterestedly devoted to her glory and interests, though none more so. One of his ancestors was standard-bearer to the Black Prince, and the family has continued in possession of Codrington and Doddington, the ancient family estates in Gloucestershire, ever since that period. The Codrington Library of All Souls, Oxford, was founded by Christopher, the son of another Christopher, both governors of Barbadoes, in the reigns of Charles II. and William III. The family acquired the rank of Baronetcy in the time of George I., and its head is now Sir Christopher Bethel Codrington, of Doddington, Somersetshire, the elder brother of our gallant Admiral.

Sir Edward Codrington being destined for the navy, began his naval career in 1784, and served as a Midshipman with Admirals Sawyer, Peyton, Levison Gower, and Earl Howe. Under the patronage of the latter, he gained the rank of Lieutenant, Commander, and Post Captain. He served in the Brisk 18, the Assistance 50, the Leander 56, the Formidable 98, the Santa Margarita 32, and the Pegasus 28, guns. The latter ship was appointed repeating-frigate to the Commander-in-Chief, Earl Howe; and Sir Edward was placed in her for the special purpose of doing duty as Signal-Lieutenant. From the Pegasus he was removed to the Queen Charlotte, Lord Howe's flag-ship; and after the battles of the 28th and 29th of May, and the 1st of June, he was entrusted with the duplicate despatches announcing the victorious result to his government, and was of course included in the vote of thanks for those brilliant services.

His first post-ship was the Babet 24, which he commanded in the action that took place off Orient, 23d of June, 1795, under Lord Bridport, when three ships of the line were made prizes; and in 1797 he commanded the Druid 32, on the Lisbon station.

In 1802, Sir Edward was married to a daughter of —— Hall, Esq., of Old Windsor. From this period he remained in private life until 1805; at which time he was appointed to the Orion 74, and became one of an envied set of men, led to unfading glory at Trafalgar by the admired, the beloved, and lamented Lord Nelson!

In about eighteen months after, in consequence of ill health, he retired to his family; but in 1808, he was again brought forward into active life, being appointed to the Blake, 74, in which ship his services, during five years, received the fullest and warmest approbation of his commanding officers, as expressed in the letters of Sir Richard Strachan, Lord Gardner, Sir Richard Keats, Sir Charles Cotton, and Sir Edward Pellew: and the active and beneficial exertions made by him, while employed by the latter officer in a detached command on the eastern coast of Spain, were such as to obtain for him the most honorable testimonials from the Spanish government, Sir Henry Wellesley, our ambassador to Spain, and all the authorities with whom he acted.

He was made Colonel of Marines in 1814, and went to America, with a Commodore's broad pendant, to be Captain of the fleet to Sir Alexander Cochrane; shortly after which he was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

He served with Sir Alexander Cochrane when the city of Washington was captured, when the flotilla at Penobscot was destroyed, when the Potowmac was forced, and all the shipping in the harbour of Alexandria were given up. Also at the affair of Baltimore, between our troops with the seamen and marines, and the American army; and on the expedition to New Orleans.

Sir Edward Codrington was made K.C.B. in 1815; and in consequence of the termination of hostilities with America, he returned to England. In Sir Alexander Cochrane's letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty on this occasion, the Vice-Admiral says,—"I take this opportunity to request, that you will be pleased to express to their Lordships my entire satisfaction at the manner in which Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Codrington has conducted his public duties while Captain of the fleet upon this station, during a series of active operations, in which I have greatly benefited by his advice and assistance."

In a letter to Sir Edward himself, he writes: "I cannot allow of your departure from hence, without first expressing to you how much I feel obliged by the zeal and ability which you have displayed in your public situation, while under my command, and how much benefit I have derived from your counsel and assistance, in the active service in which the fleet and army have been engaged."

In 1827, during a period of the most intricate and arduous circumstances, the settlement of the war between the Greeks and Turks, Sir Edward Codrington received the appointment to the chief command in the Mediterranean, and, during the short, though eventful time of his being on that station, zeal, ability, and indefatigable exertions never shone more conspicuously; nor could they ever be better directed to the purpose had in view by those under whose orders and instructions he was acting.

The leading object of his duty was, to carry into effect the treaty of London of the 6th July, by conciliatory means, if possible; but if they were ineffectual, recourse was to be had to compulsory measures: the *alternative* could as little be mistaken by the *framers* of such instructions, as misunderstood by those appointed to execute them. This *inevitable* alternative of *force* occurred, in the first instance, off Patras, where one of the most masterly manœuvres took place, ever recorded even in British naval annals; and which more strongly marks Sir Edward Codrington's character, not only for skill and ability as an officer, but as to that still more rare quality of moral courage—that courage of *responsibility,* which always bespeaks a mind of the noblest stamp. It has been well said, that "*Money* is the test of a man's integrity—*responsibility,* that of his *courage;*" and no where can there be found a more powerful proof of the latter axiom, than in this brilliant affair off Patras.

Sir Edward Codrington left Navarin after an interview with Ibrahim Pasha, in which the Turkish word of honor was pledged, that the armistice entered into between them should remain sacredly inviolate, until Ibrahim should receive fresh instructions from Constantinople, consequent on this interview; and which could not possibly arrive within twenty days: and he farther bound himself to give due notice to Sir Edward and his colleagues, whenever he might receive such instructions, or might have any desire to put an end to the armistice. Ibrahim appeared to feel, equally with Sir Edward Codrington and Admiral de Rigny, a wish and intention to guide himself by the terms of the treaty of London: and therefore, in the prospect of the allies having to convoy the Ottoman ships to Alexandria and the Dardanelles, for which purpose they had not sufficient provisions and stores, the English ships were necessarily sent to Malta to replenish, and the French fleet, under Admiral de Rigny, sailed for Cervi bay, to receive provisions from a store-ship directed to meet him at that anchorage. Sir Edward himself, being anxious to be at hand in case of any unforeseen occurrence, went to Zante in the Asia, accompanied by the Talbot, and the Zebra brig, leaving the Dartmouth frigate to watch the ports of Navarin and Modon.

The Dartmouth soon brought information, that a large division of the Turkish ships, under a Vice and Rear-Admiral, had quitted Navarin, and was steering towards Patras; their purpose evidently being to destroy a small Greek squadron in the gulph of Lepanto. Sir Edward Codrington immediately put to sea with his little detachment, and reminded the Turkish commander, (the Petrona Bey,) that he was acting in direct breach of the word of honor of Ibrahim, given in his presence, and that of all his other chiefs; and expressed his determination to prevent, even by force, if necessary, any offensive operations against Greece.

They pretended an acquiescence in this injunction, and accordingly steered back towards Navarin, to which point Sir Edward Codrington had despatched the Zebra for the assistance of any of the allied squadron she might meet with.

On the following morning, the Turkish ships were joined by Ibrahim himself, with two other Admirals, and fifteen sail of vessels of war; which, after a communication with the Petrona Bey, all made sail together towards Navarin; but the night being very tempestuous, Ibrahim took advantage of a dark squall of wind and heavy rain, to push for Patras with such ships as were near enough to observe his motions. Sir Edward, acting in the full spirit of the treaty, and having to carry a point of paramount importance, first tried argument and persuasion; but these failing, he with undaunted mind determined, notwithstanding the disparity of numbers, to obtain compliance by force. Under these perilous circumstances, and with a full sense of the responsibility of his situation, he made the signal for battle, and placed his gallant band in the middle of the Ottoman fleet, contiguous to the ship in which Ibrahim was embarked.

It was probably from being awed by the resolution thus practically expressed, that Ibrahim, after a communication with his Admirals, gave out a signal, and made sail with the whole of his fleet in the direction of Navarin. He was subsequently tempted, by a sudden change of wind, again to make the experiment of reaching Patras; but this Sir Edward Codrington, with no less dexterity than bravery, effectually counteracted. Thus his decision of character, and bold bearing, produced that intimidation in his opponents, that enabled him, with only the Asia, the Dartmouth, and the Talbot, to foil the purpose of Ibrahim and his four assisting Admirals, with nearly sixty vessels, of which his fleet was composed.

The gallantry that obtains a well-fought battle under distinct authorization, is unhesitatingly greeted, as it ought to be, by the approbation of superiors. How much stronger, then, is the claim to praise, when similar courage and ability are evinced, though hampered by the responsibility and moral risk so deeply incurred from the extreme inadequacy of the means; and when, by that ability, the end is obtained, without the penalty of loss of lives! Few manœuvres have ever been more full of danger, more successful, and more admirable, than this forced retreat of so large a fleet before this heroic little detachment.

By the 14th the allied squadrons were all re-united off Navarin.

After the above failure on the part of Ibrahim, the troops were landed at Navarin, and the wretched inhabitants of the Morea felt more severely than before, the cruel effects of his vengeance, excited as it was by recent disappointment. The whole country was being ravaged: two separate deputations were sent to Sir Edward Codrington from the province of Maina, reporting these devastations; in consequence of this, he directed Captain Hamilton, of the Cambrian, accompanied by the Constantine Russian frigate, to ascertain the fact; which being verified by personal communication with the Ottoman officer commanding the division, the allied Admirals felt the imperative necessity of putting a stop to these barbarities: they, therefore, after due deliberation, agreed that the most likely method of effecting this object without effusion of blood was, to take up a position in the bay of Navarin, and, by the powerful and imposing appearance of the three united squadrons, obtain from Ibrahim that which he would not yield to remonstrance and negociation. Accordingly, on the 20th, the combined fleets entered the bay: the result, though far from being anticipated at the time, is, by means of the public despatches, too well known to need our entering into the details in so limited a work as this. Sufficiently long it will hand to posterity the names of those gallant officers who effected it, and will ever be considered as one of the brightest gems of the naval crown of Great Britain.

Having entered the bay, they found the adversary fully prepared for battle—which one of those collisions, so likely to ensue, where so many armed, ardent, and hostile men were frowning defiance at each other, speedily brought on. The leading ships, the Asia, Genoa, and Albion, passed the batteries on shore unmolested, and anchored; but on the Dartmouth's sending a boat towards a fire-ship, it was fired upon, and the action, after a few attempts at explanation, became general. The Turks fought with the bravery of optimists and predestinarians; and their resistance would have reflected fame upon the natives of any country, standing however high in the scale of naval skill and superiority. But their individual courage and unquenchable devotedness were vain against the force they opposed; and, rivalling each other in valour and seamanship, the allies finally overpowered them with immense slaughter.

Notwithstanding the high approbation of his late Majesty and the Lord High Admiral, as testified by immediately conferring on Sir Edward the Grand Cross of the Bath, yet the ministers of the day, from some political views of their own, possibly to conciliate the Turks, judged it expedient to remove the Vice-Admiral from his command, and he was accordingly superseded. In the meanwhile they distinctly declared, in their places in Parliament, that no blame whatever attached to him personally or professionally; yet the plea of there being no precedent for a vote of thanks for a victory without previous and positive declaration of war, deprived him, and his gallant supporters in an unexpected and severely contested battle, of that gratifying meed of praise, (their country's approbation,) which is the most precious to the feelings of her naval and military servants.

Even by the party through whom his recall was effected, his conduct was extolled in the highest degree; and the Duke of Wellington said in the House of Lords, that "not the slightest charge could be made against, or the most distant imputation cast on, Sir Edward Codrington; that the gallant Admiral had been placed in a most difficult and peculiar situation; that he was in command of a squadron of ships in conjunction with Admirals of foreign nations, and he had so conducted himself as to acquire their confidence, they allowing him to lead them to victory." This service, the noble Duke admitted, the gallant Admiral had completed in a way which did credit to himself and to his country. He then declared he should consider himself unworthy the office he held, if he uttered a single word derogatory to that officer's character and services, admiring as he did the course he had pursued in such a time of difficulty and danger.

The Marquis of Lansdowne declared, that if blame rested any where, it did not rest with Sir Edward Codrington. He hoped it could be proved that blame did not rest any where; but if it did exist, it would be easy to prove that it was not with the gallant Admiral; it must be with those who had concluded those treaties, that had placed him in a situation from which he had extricated himself by the exercise of sound discretion and a sense of duty; and who was consequently entitled to the protection, not of his friends only, but of every person who was proud of British honor.

Lord Goderich entirely concurred in every thing that had been said by Lord Lansdowne: in his opinion, the gallant Admiral had exercised a sound discretion; that he was placed in circumstances of no ordinary difficulty, and had discharged his duty like a man of courage. He was prepared to support him, not only on the principle, that it was the duty of a government to support those who had executed their orders, but from a deliberate conviction, that he was justified, under existing circumstances, in the course which he took; and that, in taking that course, he neither tarnished his own previously acquired fame, nor sullied the honor and reputation of his country.

Many other distinguished members of both houses bore equally powerful testimony to the conduct of Sir Edward

Codrington: but still the vote of thanks was resisted by ministers, as already stated, on the plea of our not being at war with Turkey. However, so strong and universal was the approving sentiment expressed by all parties, that, although the motion was not carried to a division, yet each gallant man who contributed to the glorious result, may feel an innate conviction, that he has virtually received that so highly cherished mark of approbation.

In addition to the unequivocal testimonials received from his native country, Sir Edward Codrington wears on his breast the sparkling honors of Russia and France. The following is a copy of the letter which accompanied the former of these, written by the Emperor Nicolas:—

"Your name, from this time forward, belongs to posterity. By praise I should but weaken the glory which surrounds it. But I must offer you a brilliant mark of the gratitude and esteem you have inspired in Russia. With this view, I send to you herewith the military order of St. George. The Russian navy is proud of having obtained your commendation at Navarin; and, on my own part, I feel the most lively pleasure in thus assuring you of the sentiments of consideration which I entertain towards you. "NICOLAS."

Before giving up the command to his successor, Sir Edward Codrington was enabled, by dint of unwearied exertion, and with considerable difficulty, to effect a treaty with the Pasha of Egypt, for the immediate evacuation of the Morea by Ibrahim and his army. This measure was considered to be one of the first objects of the alliance; and it placed at the disposal of the allied powers that most essential portion of the Greek territory in which they could adopt any arrangement they might deem best, in the practical execution of the treaty of London. It was termed by ministers, in the King's speech, "a most important point;" and it may fairly be considered as another essential service rendered by Sir Edward Codrington to the cause of Grecian liberty.

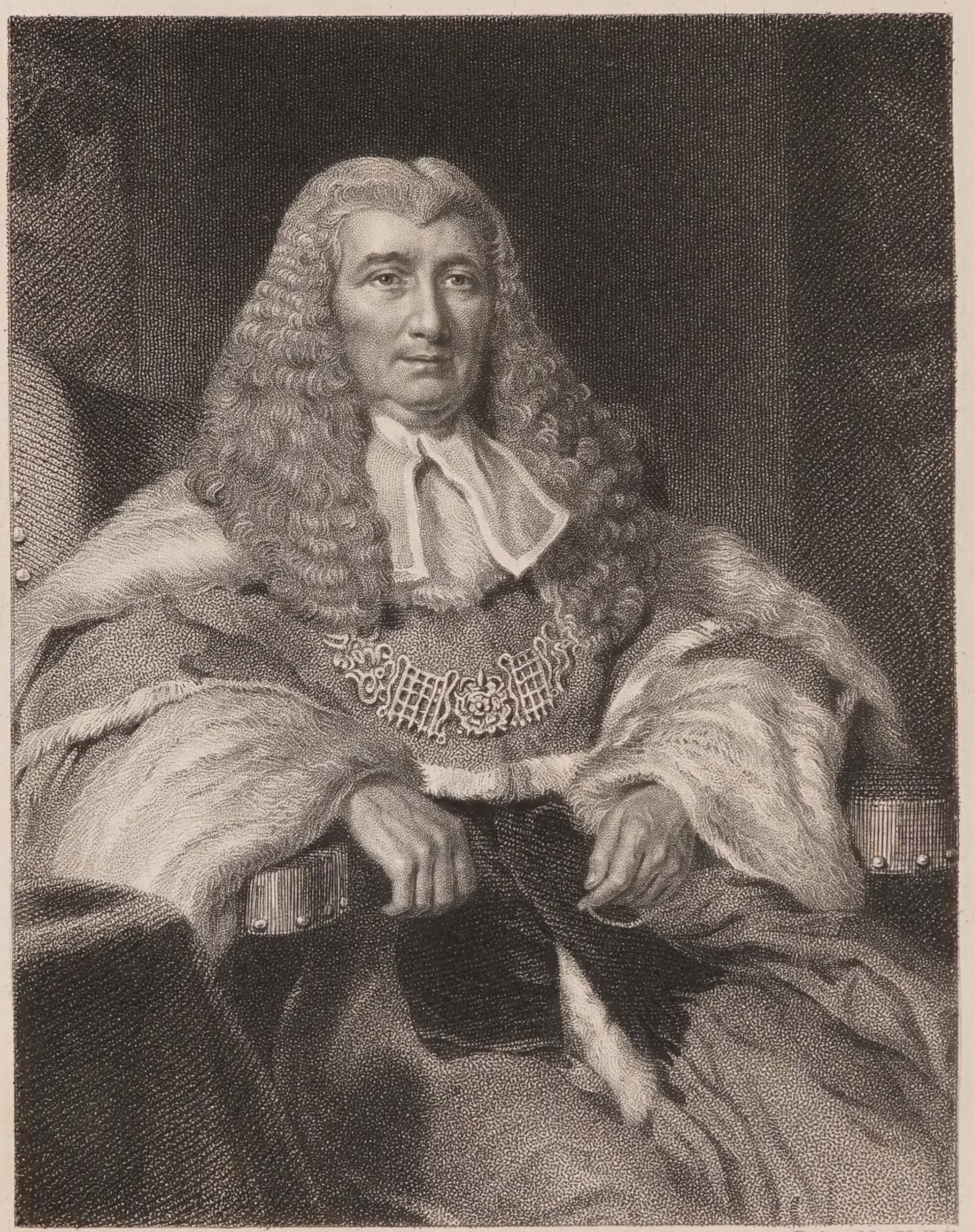
Since Sir Edward's return to England, he has never ceased to advocate the cause of those who fought under his command; and who, while the officers were liberally rewarded with promotions and honorary distinctions, remained still unremunerated for the clothes and bedding, (of which there was a more than ordinary destruction,) or for the wounds they had received in their devotion to their perilous duty.

To Sir Edward himself personally, we understand that a pension of £800 per annum was offered by the Duke of Wellington; but, as being quite unconnected with recompense to the men, he immediately and decidedly declined it.

Since this period, Sir Edward Codrington has travelled to St. Petersburg, where he has been received by the emperor in the most honorable manner, and distinguished by the monarch and the court in every way which could delight a noble ambition. On visiting Paris, he also met with a reception equally flattering; so that, although he might have felt a partial disappointment in not receiving officially the rewards of his services, and the honors due from his country, he has been invariably followed by the admiration of a vast majority at home, and the unmingled applause of whole nations abroad.

But even the eclipse which political ingenuity contrived to throw over him for a season, has been gradually withdrawing its influence from his fame, and the recent changes which have taken place in the aspect of our affairs, have called him once more to bask in the beams of an unclouded sun. Again he appears above the horizon, the shadows having disappeared, and at this moment his flag proudly waves on board the Caledonia, one of the largest ships in his Majesty's navy.

July, 1831.



Painted by J. W. Wright. Engraved by W. Holl.

CHARLES ABBOTT, BARON TENTERDEN,

LORD - CHIEF - JUSTICE OF THE KINGS BENCH.

Tenterden

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON, 1831.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE CHARLES ABBOTT,

BARON TENTERDEN,

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH, ETC. ETC. ETC.

OUR last publication contained a Memoir of the distinguished precursor of LORD TENTERDEN; and we alluded to the doubts, so generally expressed in his time, that it would be, indeed, a difficult thing, when he should have vacated it, to fill the judgment-seat with his like again. Now, without instituting an invidious comparison between the living and the dead, we may safely aver, that the subject of our present sketch has shown himself, in all the great qualities which the important station requires, inferior to none of even his most esteemed and venerated predecessors. Combining a vast fund of legal knowledge with acuteness and sagacity of mind, a gentleness of manner with the utmost firmness, and indefatigable habits of application with good temper and inflexible integrity, his decisions not only claim the respect of contemporaries, but they will continue to be the guide of future lawyers and judges.

This eminent individual was born at Canterbury, on the seventh of October, 1762, of parents in a humble walk of life, who resided in one of the small houses, now removed, but then standing near the entrance of its magnificent cathedral; disfiguring that noble structure—and contrasting with it, no less than their own lowly condition with the splendid elevation of their son.

The instruction of young Abbott was confided to the free grammar school of his native city; an institution which has long maintained a high character for the abilities of its masters, and for the excellence of the course adopted in preparing the pupils, either for the universities, or for the more usual pursuits of business. Here the talents of the boy, his assiduity and consequent success in his studies, induced a hope in his father that he might, by perseverance, lift himself from the sphere of a tradesman, and, through a foundation scholarship, be enabled to complete his education at the university of Oxford. This parental hope was gratified, and the anxious wish of the father fully realized, respecting the object of his care.

Thus encouraged, it might be anticipated, that at Oxford there was no degeneracy or falling off; on the contrary, Mr. Abbott applied himself with unremitting vigour to his duties, and soon obtained a fellowship in his college, Corpus Christi.

In 1786, he carried off the English Prize Essay, by an admirable treatise on the use and abuse of satire. Of this meritorious composition, the following analysis will communicate the general outline. He dwelt upon the early use of panegyrical and satiric composition; on the gradual increase of the latter with the progress of refinement; and on different species of satire, invective, and ridicule. He then took the general division of satire into personal, political, moral, and critical, and thus divided his essay:—

"I. 1. Personal satire, necessary to enforce obedience to general instructions. 2. Its abuse, when the subject is improperly chosen—when the manner is unsuitable to the subject—and when it proceeds from private animosity.

"II. 1. Political satire, necessary for the general support of mixed governments. 2. Its abuse, when it tends to lessen the dignity of the supreme authority—to promote national division—or to weaken the spirit of patriotism.

"III. 1. Moral satire, its use in exposing error—folly—and vice. 2. Its abuse, when applied as the test of truth—and when it tends to weaken the social affections.

"IV. 1. Critical satire. Its use in the introduction and support of correct taste. 2. Its abuse, when directed against the solid parts of science, or the correct productions of genius.

"Conclusion. Comparison of the benefits and disadvantages derived from satire. Superiority of the former."

As a specimen of this comprehensive and admirable essay, we transcribe the following brief extracts, which furnish indubitable evidence of his intimate acquaintance with the subject. On the use of personal satire, he observes, that—

"To stigmatize the names of those persons whose vices or follies, either immediately by their effects, or more remotely by their example, are injurious to the happiness of society, is an action both just and patriotic. The instructions of the moralist and the critic would be too often neglected or despised, if there were no executive power, which might punish the violation of their laws. History indeed, by delivering down the vicious to perpetual infamy, presents the noblest lesson of morality: but, besides that it comprehends only the more important actions, it is rather a caution against future, than a remedy of present evils; whereas, by the judicious application of personal reproof, the contagion of folly may be prevented, although the infection perhaps cannot be removed."

"Personal satire has been successfully directed in all countries against the vain pretenders to genius and learning, who, if they were not rendered contemptible by ridicule, would too often attract the attention, and corrupt the taste, of the age. By employing irony the most artful, and wit the most acute, against the unnatural and insipid, among his contemporaries, Boileau drew the affections and judgment of his nation to the chaste and interesting productions of Moliere and Racine."

Among the abuses of satire he enumerates its inapplication to character, its disposition to magnify the common infirmities of human nature, and, above all, its being dictated by private animosity.

Having thus surveyed and analyzed satire in its various branches, agreeably to the preceding syllabus, he thus sums up the amount in the following paragraph.

" From this general representation of the good and ill effects of satire, we may be enabled to form a comparison of their respective importance. By the improper exercise of satire, individuals have sometimes been exposed to undeserved contempt ; nations have been inspired with unjustifiable animosity; immoral sentiments have been infused; and false taste has received encouragement and support. On the contrary, by the just exertions of satire, personal licentiousness has frequently been restrained; the establishments of kingdoms have been supported; and the precepts of morality and taste conveyed in a form the most alluring and efficacious. The success, however, of all those productions that have not been directed by virtue and justice, has been confined and transient, whatever genius or talents might be employed in their composition; by the wise among their contemporaries they have been disregarded, and in the following age they have sunk into oblivion. But the effusions of wit united with truth, have been received with universal approbation, and preserved with perpetual esteem : their influence has been extended over nations, and prolonged through ages. Hence, perhaps, we need not hesitate to conclude, that the benefits derived from satire are far superior to the disadvantages, with regard both to their extent and duration: and its authors may, therefore, deservedly be numbered among the happiest instructors of mankind."

Mr. Abbott having thus acquired reputation, now became a tutor, and in his turn communicated to others those blessings of intellectual cultivation to which he had so far been indebted for his own progress in the scale of society. Among his pupils was a son of Mr. Justice Buller, and that discriminating person was not long in discovering the superior endowments with which he was gifted. By him he was advised to turn his attention to the law, with the cheering stimulus of an opinion from such a quarter, that it must lead to the highest preferment; he accordingly entered himself, and pursued the usual course previous to being called to the bar. In due time also, he was engaged in the active business of his profession, and gradually rose to the enjoyment of a considerable share of its toils and emoluments. Independently of his legal acquirements and knowledge, he was ever honorably distinguished for the humanity and kindness of his disposition, and for an honesty which reflected as bright a lustre upon the barrister as upon the private individual. Of the latter we have heard, and believe, a singular instance. When the returns of the income tax were called for, Mr. Abbott, among his brethren of the Temple, sent in the account of his profits. They were curiously accurate, as it is said, for they were precisely the amount of his receipts during the preceding year, viz. * * * thousand and twenty-six pounds five shillings!! The shrewd tax-gatherer, a "native to the place," insinuated that all the members of that inn of court, some of them judges since, were not quite so conscientious in their returns.

Originally befriended by Mr. Justice Buller, and subsequently by Lord Ellenborough, unassuming, studious, and learned in the law, Mr. Abbott's way to the highest preferments was smooth and even. Upon the death of Mr. Justice Heath, he was appointed a puisne judge in the Court of Common Pleas; and very soon after, in 1816, the death of Sir Simon Le Blanc made room for him in the Court of King's Bench At this period he received the honor of knighthood.

Only two years elapsed, before the retirement of Lord Ellenborough opened the highest pinnacle of legal advancement (we except the Lord Chancellorship of England, as partly political) to his view and occupation; and since the second of November, 1818, he has fulfilled the functions of that important station with increasing honor to himself, and great advantage to the public. On the thirtieth of April, 1827, he was elevated to the peerage, by the title of Baron Tenterden of Hendon, in the county of Middlesex: "*Labore*" is his modest motto—a word which may well incite the greatest genius that ever may arise, to aim by similar means at similar distinction.

In our "brief chronicle," though anxious to state correctly the leading facts in the lives of our national characters, we are aware it would be tedious to go into the details of any which are purely professional. The history of a Chief Justice of England would suffice for an interesting volume, if treated with skill in the minutiæ of its legal aspects: ours is an outline; but that outline we cannot finish in the present instance, without demanding public admiration for the truly kind feelings and humane sympathies which have marked the life of Lord Tenterden. The bar and the bench are not the schools to cultivate and improve (we mean to increase the force of) these natural endowments:—it is not a reproach; but the cognizance of infirmities and vices forced upon every lawyer, as well as his combats for intellectual victory over his opponents, no matter whether the cause be right or wrong, tends in the course of practice to blunt his sensibilities, and give him dark notions of mankind. Lord Tenterden appears to us, above all men of his order, to have avoided this benumbing and repulsive state of mind; and we consider him eminently entitled to regard for his gentle affections. It would, however, be injustice to several of his learned brethren on the bench, if we did not take care to guard ourselves against this being construed into an exclusive tribute.

In 1795, his Lordship married Mary, the eldest daughter of John Lagier Lamotte, Esq. by whom he has two sons and two daughters.

Our Likeness is from an original portrait, painted for this work.

Painted by Sir Thos. Lawrence, P.R.A.

Engraved by H. Meyer.

THE Rt. HON. LIEUT. GEN. SIR GEORGE MURRAY, G.C.B. F.R.S. &c. &c.

G. Murray

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1831.

THE RIGHT HON. LIEUTENANT-GENERAL

SIR GEORGE MURRAY,

G.C.B. G.C.H. ETC. ETC.

COLONEL OF THE FORTY-SECOND FOOT, AND GOVERNOR OF FORT GEORGE.

THIS highly distinguished officer commenced his military career in April, 1789, when he was appointed to an Ensigncy in the 71st regiment, from which corps he was removed to the 34th, and, in June 1790, to the 3rd Foot Guards.

With the Guards he served the campaign of 1793, in Flanders—and was present at the affair of St. Amand; the battle of Famars; the siege of Valenciennes; the brilliant affair of Lincelles; the investment of Dunkirk; and the attack of Lannoy.

In January 1794 he was promoted to a Lieutenancy with the rank of Captain, and in April following he returned to England. He rejoined the British army in Flanders in the summer of the same year, and was in the memorable retreat through Holland and Germany.

In 1795 Captain Murray was appointed Aid-de-camp to Major-General Alexander Campbell, on the staff of Lord Moira's army; in the summer of that year, he sailed in the expedition intended for Quiberon; and in the autumn following, in that for the West Indies, under Sir Ralph Abercrombie; but in consequence of ill-health, he was compelled to return home in February 1796.

Captain Murray served during the years 1796 and 1797, as Aid-de-camp to Major-General Campbell, on the staff in England and Ireland. In August 1799 he obtained a company in the 3rd Foot Guards, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; and in that year he was employed on the staff of the Quarter-Master-General's department, in the expedition to Holland, and was wounded in the action near the Helder.

In the autumn of 1800 Lieutenant-Colonel Murray sailed for the Mediterranean; was appointed to the Quarter-Master-General's department, and sent upon a mission to Java.

In 1801 he was employed in the expedition to Egypt: he was present at the landing of the army; in the battles of the 13th and 21st of March; in the expedition against Rosetta; at the affair of Rhamanie; and at the investment of Cairo and Alexandria.

In 1802 Lieutenant-Colonel Murray was appointed Adjutant-General in the West Indies; in 1803, Assistant-Quarter-Master-General at the Horse Guards; and in 1804, Deputy-Quarter-Master-General in Ireland.

Lieutenant-Colonel-Murray served in the expedition of 1805 to Hanover, under Lieutenant-General Don, and afterwards under Lieutenant-General Lord Cathcart; and in 1806 he returned to his staff appointment in Ireland.

In 1807 he was placed at the head of the Quarter-Master-General's department, in the expedition to Stralsund, and afterwards to Copenhagen; in the spring of 1808 he was appointed Quarter-Master-General in the expedition to Sweden under Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore; and in the autumn of the same year Quarter-Master-General to the British army in Portugal.

Lieutenant-Colonel Murray was present at the battles of Vimiera; the affairs at Lugo and Villa Franca, in Spain; and at the battle of Corunna, which terminated the disastrous campaign of the gallant and high-minded Sir John Moore.

In 1809 he received the brevet rank of Colonel, and was appointed Quarter-Master-General in Spain and Portugal, to the army under Lord Wellington. In this capacity he was present in the affairs on the advance to Oporto; at the passage of the Douro; in the battles of Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes D'Onor, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, and Toulouse; and continued with the army during its subsequent operations, till the termination of hostilities in 1814, when he was appointed Quarter-Master-General in Ireland; and in December of the same year, Quarter-Master-General in America.

In January 1812 he had been promoted to the rank of Major-General; in 1813, appointed Colonel of the 7th battalion of the 60th regiment; and in 1814 he held the local rank of Lieutenant-General in Canada.

At the augmentation of the Order of the Bath, the services of this officer were rewarded by his being appointed Knight Grand Cross of that distinguished Order; he is also a Knight Grand Cross of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order; a Knight Commander of the Tower and Sword of Portugal; a Knight of the Order of Leopold of Austria, and of several other orders.

We have thus rapidly glanced at the military services of Sir George Murray; services performed in every quarter of the globe, under perils and difficulties of the most imminent and trying description, and with responsibilities of the highest consequence. Flanders, Holland, Germany, the East and West Indies, Egypt, the north of Europe, Spain, Portugal, France, and America, have all witnessed his prowess, and the British forces in all these parts have felt the value of his abilities. A career so various and extensive, as almost to be extraordinary, (though our army list displays the names of many gallant soldiers, whom the wide-spread possessions, and equally wide-spread wars of their country, have led to bleed in many a distant land,) was necessarily a school for the acquisition of general information, of much useful knowledge, and of an experience which could be advantageously employed in offices of yet greater trust and importance.

In May 1828, when Mr. Huskisson, Lord Dudley, Lord Palmerston, and Mr. Charles Grant, seceded from the administration of the Duke of Wellington, Sir George Murray, then Commander of the Forces in Ireland, took the seals of the Colonial office, as the successor of that eminent statesman, whose Portrait appeared in our last publication. The Premier, well acquainted with his talents in the field, called them to his aid in the cabinet; and now that the ministry has passed away, it is allowed on all hands, that whether in his office or in Parliament, not one of its members obtained more popularity or distinction than the Right Honorable Secretary for the Colonies. His intimacy with the West Indies rendered him an efficient and clear-sighted negociator in every thing that related to the great interests at issue among parties concerned either in the property of these Islands, in the slave trade, or in the other questions which so frequently agitate them.

With regard to Canada, his judgment was, if possible, still more conclusive; for we have heard it stated as a matter well understood and acknowledged, that his conduct there, at an unfortunate and disastrous period, contributed in a great measure to the salvation of the colony. In the House of Commons he spoke seldom, but always effectively. His speech on the Catholic question, where he so forcibly and pathetically painted the soldiers of the two religions sharing the same dangers and privations, reposing together under the same heaven, and dying together the same death for their country, produced, perhaps, more sensation, both in the auditory before whom it was delivered, and among the people, than any other address, however elaborate and eloquent, elicited by the occasion. On Colonial questions he was also listened to with marked attention; and the warmth with which he adhered to his old commander was not diminished in the support he continued to give to his political chief. The only point in which we remember any slight difference of opinion, was, we think, in the sentiments each delivered on the memorable topic of reform, which led to the overthrow of the administration: Sir George Murray did not appear to go to the decided length of opposition which was inferred from his, the Premier's, declaration, to be the principle of the Duke of Wellington.

Sir George Murray is of an ancient family—the Murrays, or rather Morays, of Ochtertyre, for the orthography of the family name has been changed within the last hundred years. His brother, the present head of the house, Sir Patrick Murray, Baronet of Ochtertyre, himself, and the other children of this generation, are the offspring of Sir William, the fifth Baronet, and of Augusta the youngest daughter of the Earl of Cromartie, celebrated in the struggles of the Stuarts for the throne of Britain, and one of those noblemen who sealed their attachment to the exiled race upon the scaffold.

Scotland was (perhaps is yet, in some districts) full of legendary stories of the last members of the house of Cromartie; but our sober biographical portraits cannot enter upon what might well be termed the romance of real life—and a romance more curious than many a well-wrought fiction. We may say, however, even in the quiet matter-of-fact of our sketches, that if, in his parentage, George Murray, the cadet, could find a youthful stimulus to exertion and valour, Sir George Murray, the late Secretary of State, may justly appeal to the same source of excitement, for a noble impulse to aim at yet higher distinctions than he has attained. But if not—"*In bello quies*" has been his motto; and let us hope that "*Post bello quies*" might induce him to be the historian of a period to which he, of all men, is most competent to do justice. Not only of the American contest, where Sir George Prevost was, to speak in measured terms, less successful than could have been wished; but of the whole detail and general history of the Peninsular war, his complete access to every source of information, his own comprehensive powers, and his prominent share in action as well as in council, should, if the public voice could be raised, make him the annalist. Should he not be called upon to devote himself again to official concerns, we trust the country may reap the benefit of his endowments as an author, for we are well satisfied that he could throw an important light upon many of the wonderful transactions of our wonderful times.

We have now to close this very brief Memoir; confessing again the extreme difficulty, which seems to accumulate upon us, in writing the accounts of contemporary and living men; especially of those whose course is yet in the middle of the glorious race-ground, where true ambition may point to a goal beyond the mere winning-post of the hour. But we must not speculate—Sir George Murray, as a political character, is still in the prime of his faculties, older in experience than years: his elder brother was born in 1771. He represents his native county, Perthshire, in Parliament, and a fine whole-length of him, painted for his constituents, or, more strictly, for his friends and admirers in that county, was among the last works of Sir Thomas Lawrence.

Sir George Murray married Lady Louisa, the widow of Sir James Erskine, and sister to the Marquis of Anglesey.

Painted by J. W. Wright. Engraved by J. Cochran.

HERBERT MARSH, D. D. LORD BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH.

Herbert Peterborough

FISHER, SON & Cº LONDON 1831.

HERBERT MARSH, D.D.

LORD BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH.

Herbert Marsh, son of the Rev. Richard Marsh, A.M., Vicar of Faversham, in Kent, and formerly of Bene't College, in Cambridge, was born on the 10th of December, 1757. After the common acquirements of reading, writing, and arithmetic, he was sent, when about seven years old, to a small grammar-school in the town where his father lived. At the age of eleven he was removed to the King's School, at Canterbury, where he remained till his eighteenth year, when he was admitted at St. John's College, Cambridge.

In January, 1779, he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and obtained the second honor in the University, called Second Wrangler; the first honor, or that of Senior Wrangler, being obtained by Mr. Jones, who properly belonged to the year preceding, and had, therefore, studied a year longer. Soon afterwards, Mr. Marsh carried away one of the two mathematical prizes. In about two months after taking his degree, he was elected Fellow of St. John's College, although there was only one fellowship then vacant; and in 1780, and 1781, he successively won prizes for Latin dissertations. About the same period he entered into holy orders, and was ordained Deacon and Priest; and in the course of the latter year, he also took the degree of Master of Arts.

Having thus obtained a vote for the University, he had very soon an opportunity of shewing his early attachment to Mr. Pitt. At the general election of 1784, which laid the foundation of that great statesman's power and popularity, he was candidate for the University; and Mr. Marsh, though at that time too young to render any material service, was one of his most zealous supporters. In 1785, he went abroad; and, after travelling through a great part of France, the Netherlands, Holland, and the North of Germany, settled at Leipsic in the autumn of 1786. Here he became member of the University, and attended the lectures of the most distinguished Professors: but his chief attention was directed to the study of theology. He translated into English the first volume of Michaelis's Introduction to the New Testament, of which the fourth and last edition was published at Göttingen, in 1778. To the translation he added a volume of Notes, which were afterwards translated into German by Professor Rosenmüller.

In 1792 he returned to Cambridge, for the purpose of taking the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, without which he would have lost his fellowship. On that occasion he preached and printed a Sermon, entitled "The Authenticity of the Five Books of Moses vindicated;" which was intended as a reply to a Sermon by Dr. Edwards, in which the latter declared, that he could prove the spuriousness of those books by arguments similar to those which Bentley had employed with respect to the Epistles of Phalaris. While he was at Cambridge, he printed at the University Press, his translation of the first volume of Michaelis's Introduction, accompanied with his own Notes. In September, 1793, he returned to Leipsic; but the political convulsions, which then tore Europe asunder, were ill-calculated to dispose the mind towards literary contemplation. He was roused, however, in the following year to a controversy with Archdeacon Travis, by an attack, of which the Archdeacon was the author, upon one of the notes to Michaelis; which note Mr. Marsh successfully vindicated.

The translation of Michaelis's Introduction was then resumed; the second volume was completed: Notes were added relating to the Gospels; and also a very elaborate dissertation on the origin of the first three Gospels. But unforeseen events prevented the author from completing his plan, by adding Notes also to the Acts and the Epistles. He was unexpectedly drawn from theology to politics. In the year 1798, the current of public opinion on the Continent ran so strongly against England, that the very name of Englishman had become an object of hatred. At that time there were few journals on the Continent, which were not either in the interest or in the pay of France; and the very few, that did not take open part against England, were afraid to take part in our favour. The calumnies of the former, therefore, were left uncontradicted, till at length they were generally believed. Under these circumstances Mr. Marsh undertook, almost single-handed, a defence of his own country; and published in the German language, which he wrote as fluently and as correctly as English, an historical view of the politics of England and France, from the conference at Pilnitz, to the declaration of war against England by the National Convention in February, 1793. The narrative was every where supported by official documents drawn chiefly from the Moniteur. The facts, therefore, could not be controverted; hence the tissue of falsehoods, which had been in general circulation, was at once destroyed; and the public opinion in regard to the conduct of England was materially changed.

When this effect had been produced in Germany, Mr. Marsh translated his Essay into English, and printed this Version at Leipsic in 1799. The whole impression was sent to London, where it was soon sold, and a new edition was published. At the beginning of 1800, a copy of it having fallen into the hands of Mr. Pitt, he requested Mr. Canning to inform the author, that he was desirous of seeing him. Such an invitation was of course readily accepted; and Mr. Marsh came to England in April, 1800. He was every where received with great attention by the friends of the minister; and the minister himself offered him a pension, which he gratefully declined, thinking it more honorable to be rewarded in his own profession. Preferment was accordingly promised him; but Mr. Pitt went out of office early in 1801, and the promise was never realized. At Mr. Pitt's request, however, Mr. Addington obtained the King's sign-manual for a pension; which Mr. Marsh, then seeing no other prospect of a reward for his services, after Mr. Pitt's invitation of him to England, determined to accept. But he has long since resigned it.

His short political career being thus ended, Mr. Marsh resumed his theological studies, and again took up his abode in St. John's College, of which he had become a Senior Fellow. Here he printed the remaining part of his translation of Michaelis's Introduction, accompanied with the Notes which he had previously prepared. Here also a new prospect was opened to him for advancement in his own profession. Mr. Mainwaring, Margaret Professor of Divinity, who had then left the University, was advanced in years, and was very infirm. Attention, therefore, was occasionally turned to the question, who, in the event of a vacancy, was likely to fill his chair; and as Mr. Marsh had devoted so much time to theology, he was considered by his friends as having the best chance of success. But an attack was made on him about this period, which, if it had not been repelled, might have thwarted all his expectations. It proceeded from a writer who concealed his name, though it was subsequently known to be that of a distinguished Prelate. The title of his pamphlet was, "Remarks on Michaelis and his Commentator:" and if the title-page had announced nothing more, the anonymous author would have attracted little notice. But he thought it necessary to add, that the pamphlet was published "by way of Caution to Students in Divinity;" and as this caution made a part of the title-page, it appeared in all the advertisements, which were very numerous. Such a denunciation of a clergyman, looking forward to a Professorship of Divinity, it was necessary to answer, or to renounce all hope. Mr. Marsh accordingly soon published a reply, under the title of "Letters to the Anonymous Author of Remarks on Michaelis and his Commentator." These Letters produced a republication of the Remarks, with the addition of some Notes. Two other publications followed on the part of Mr. Marsh; for which, that we may not take up too much time with this controversy, we must refer to Dr. Watt's Bibliotheca Britannica, which contains a list of Mr. Marsh's works, published before 1815. Both parties retained, perhaps, their former opinions: but Mr. Marsh's object, which was to set himself right with the members of his own University, on whom his future advancement depended, was fully attained.

At the beginning of April, 1807, Mr. Mainwaring died, and Mr. Marsh was elected Margaret Professor without any opposition. On the 1st of July, he was married at Harwich, by special license, to Miss Marianne Emily Charlotte Lacaniere, daughter of John Lacaniere, Esq., formerly a merchant at Leipsic. Toward the end of the same year, he took up his abode in the Professional House, in Bene't Street, Cambridge, and soon turned his attention to a series of theological lectures. His predecessors, when they *did* give lectures, gave them in the Divinity Schools, and, according to ancient usage, in Latin. But such lectures were rarely attended; and the want of attendance served as an excuse for discontinuing them. The new Professor, therefore, determined to prepare a course of lectures in English; and as the Divinity Schools would have been too small for his auditory, to give them from his University pulpit.

In the spring of 1809 he commenced this "Course of Lectures, containing a description and systematic arrangement of the several branches of divinity, accompanied with an account both of the principal authors, and of the progress which has been made at different periods in theological learning." They were delivered and printed in parts, each part containing six lectures. The practice was continued annually, though with some interruptions, till 1816, when the Professor had completed his series on the criticism and the interpretation of the Bible; though during this interval he had various other engagements, which caused the interruptions above mentioned.

In May, 1811, at the request of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, he preached the annual sermon at

St. Paul's, in behalf of the children of the charity schools in the metropolis. And as at that time Mr. Lancaster was actively engaged in promoting a system of education, of which the established religion formed no part, Dr. Marsh took occasion to explain the consequences of such a system. The Society, in consequence of the importance of such a sermon at such a crisis, departed in this instance from its accustomed plan; and instead of waiting, as usual, to print it with their annual report, determined that it should appear immediately, with numerous Notes, under the following title, "The National Religion, the Foundation of National Education." It soon passed through six editions, and formed the basis of the society established in the same year, under the name of the National Society for the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church—a Society which has extended its beneficial influence to every part of the kingdom.

Such a change could not be effected without various attacks on the author of it. But these were forgotten in the controversy which began in the following year on the British and Foreign Bible Society. This Institution was considered by Dr. Marsh as founded on the same principle with the Lancasterian system, namely, an entire omission of that which distinguishes the Established Church from all other Christian societies. No less an advocate for the distribution of the Bible than his most zealous opponents, he perceived the injury which would arise to the Church of England, if the book which distinguishes that church from all other churches were gradually neglected. Preferring, therefore, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, which distributes both Bible and Prayer-book, to the new Society which distributes the Bible only, and is supported by dissenters as much as by churchmen; Dr. Marsh published, in 1812, a pamphlet, entitled "An Inquiry into the Consequences of neglecting to give the Prayer-book with the Bible." This pamphlet very soon passed through three editions, and excited considerable sensation. It brought on its writer a host of adversaries, from the ranks of churchmen as well as from those of dissenters. The asperity with which he was assailed from numerous quarters, has rarely been equalled, and never surpassed, in the annals of controversy. The minor disputants may be buried in oblivion; but there are two, although distinguished by opposite qualities, who should be briefly noticed. One of them was no less a person than the Right Hon. N. Vansittart, now Lord Bexley.

Of all Dr. Marsh's assailants, Mr. Vansittart, as might be expected, was the most courteous, though it was difficult to conceal the strength of party feeling. On the other hand, Dr. Milner, Master of Queen's College and Dean of Carlisle, who entered the field when the controversy appeared to be ended, published, in 1813, a volume of "Strictures," which was filled with the most bitter personalities. And the time selected for the publication was when Dr. Marsh was about to commence his theological lectures for that year. But when these were finished, he prepared "A Reply to the Strictures of the Rev. Isaac Milner, D.D., Dean of Carlisle," &c. which was printed at the end of the summer, and soon passed to a second edition. Here the controversy ended.

In 1814, Dr. Marsh published his "Comparative View of the Churches of England and Rome:" a work founded on authentic documents, which are quoted in the Notes; and which, excelling in importance any publication upon the same subjects, has been more than any other referred to and employed in the various discussions on the Roman Catholic question, both in and out of Parliament. He then turned his attention to a different topic, and in 1815 published the following work: "Horæ Pelasgicæ, containing an inquiry into the origin and language of the Pelasgi, or ancient inhabitants of Greece, with a description of the Pelasgic, or Eolic Digamma, as represented in the various inscriptions in which it is still preserved, and an attempt to determine its genuine Pelasgic pronunciation." In May, 1816, he resumed his theological lectures, the subject for that year being the Interpretation of Prophecy. These, which were printed as soon as delivered, concluded the series of lectures on the criticism and the interpretation of the Bible.

But we must now enter on a new era in the history of the Margaret Professor. His theological career had been hitherto a career of literary warfare, which was now to be exchanged for one of comparative repose. Dr. Watson, Bishop of Landaff, died at Calgarth in the beginning of July, 1816; and on the 10th of that month, Lord Liverpool wrote to Dr. Marsh the following letter:—

"Fife House, 10th July, 1816.

"Sir,

I have received the Prince Regent's authority to offer you the Bishopric of Landaff, which is become vacant by the death of Dr. Watson. I am peculiarly happy on being the channel of communicating to you this mark of royal favour, as a testimony of your meritorious services in the important station which you fill in the University of Cambridge, and of your zealous exertions at all times in the cause of religion and learning.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient humble servant,
"Liverpool."

This "mark of royal favour," as it was termed by Lord Liverpool, was probably unexpected by Dr. M. who had no connexion with any one about the Court, that could ask a favour for him. And the controversy, in which he had been lately engaged with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, could not induce him to hope for preferment from the Crown. The Bishopric of Landaff appears therefore to have been offered to him without any solicitation, either on his own part, or on the part of any other person. The honor of being raised to the episcopal bench must have been highly gratifying, not only because this "mark of royal favour" was expressly conferred for his own exertions, but because it necessarily diminished the load of controversial calumny which had been heaped on him during many years.

At the opening of Parliament in February 1817, Bishop M. took his seat in the House of Lords, and entered on his duty as Chaplain to their Lordships, which is always assigned to the junior Bishop. In the course of the session he made a speech on the Catholic question, which was then opposed by almost all the Bishops, and a great majority of other Peers. At the end of the session he visited his diocese, and delivered a Charge, which was afterwards published, explanatory of the Consolidation Act, which had recently passed. He then took occasion to revive the ancient order of Rural Deans, to which he gave additional effect by subdividing the Deaneries, and by making such an arrangement, that each Rural Dean should reside in the midst of the district submitted to his care. This institution has been found so useful, that it has been retained by all his successors. The session of 1815 and part of 1819 passed without any remarkable event in the life of Dr. Marsh. He remained junior Bishop, and, beside his duties in the House of Lords, very frequently preached for public charities in the metropolis and its neighbourhood.

In March 1819, Dr. Parsons, Bishop of Peterborough, who had long suffered very severely from the gout, died at Oxford. The Bishop of Landaff was then translated to Peterborough, where he took up his abode at the palace in the following summer. He then considered himself as settled for life, having a pleasant residence at the distance of only two and thirty miles from Cambridge, where he still retained his professorship, with the professional house.

At the beginning of 1820, Bishop Marsh being then disengaged from the duty of Chaplain to the House of Lords, resumed his theological labours at Cambridge, where he delivered and printed his lectures on the Authenticity of the New Testament. In 1822 he delivered and printed his lectures on the Credibility of the New Testament; and these were followed in 1823 by lectures on the Authority of the Old Testament.

With respect to the administration of his diocese, one of the first objects of his care was the appointment of Rural Deans, adopting in all respects the same plan which he had chosen at Landaff, and from which he has experienced the same beneficial results. In the summer of 1820 he held his primary visitation, and in the Charge which he delivered on that occasion, he urged the residence of the parochial clergy on their respective benefices, with the performance of two services every Sunday, except where the population was so small as not to require it, or the living was so poor, that the omission of the once general second service might be excused, for the purpose of increasing the incumbent's income by the addition of a neighbouring curacy.

That the enforcing of double duty, which has gradually taken place during the last ten years in the diocese of Peterborough, should have met with some opposition, is not surprising, but we believe that the numerous parochial clergy of that diocese, whose duties have been increased, have generally acquiesced, and even approved of the steps their Bishop has taken. The only open resistance which he has experienced to his measures proceeded from a very small body of his clergy, to whose opinions he had shewn himself adverse, long before he came to this diocese. But as the harmony was interrupted only a short time, and the best understanding now prevails between the Bishop and his clergy, it is desirable for all parties, that preceding differences should be buried in oblivion. In 1824 and in 1827 he again visited and confirmed throughout his diocese, and the charges which he delivered on those occasions were also published.

In the winters of 1827 and of 1828, which he passed at Cambridge, he collected materials for a new edition of his Lectures. The first four parts, which in that form had already gone through two editions, were republished at Cambridge, in 1828, under the following title, "Lectures on the Criticism and the Interpretation of the Bible, with two preliminary Lectures on Theological Study, and Theological Arrangement. A new edition revised and corrected: to which are now added two Lectures on the History of Biblical Interpretation." The fifth, sixth, and seventh parts, on the Authenticity and Credibility of the Bible, will, as we understand, be likewise republished, with a summary statement of the principal evidences for the divine origin of Christianity, and a review of the different modes in which the Christian religion has been defended from the earliest to the present age.

We have now recorded the principal transactions in the public life of Bishop Marsh. With the exception of two or three months in the year, which he passed among his friends at Cambridge, he constantly resided in his diocese, till, in the year 1829, he was strongly urged by his physician to try the effect of the milder climate in the south of England, during the winter. This he did, and fixed upon Hastings as his abode, returning to Peterborough in the following spring.

As a scholar and a divine, Bishop Marsh has in his numerous writings afforded means upon which to form a fair estimate of his abilities; and that they are of a very high order, few will be disposed to doubt. Of his private character, whether we view him as a husband, a parent, a master, or a friend, as a conscientious, disinterested, and benevolent man, whose object it is to discharge faithfully the duties of every relation in which he stands, those only can fully judge, who see him in the steady and unobtrusive course of his daily life.

Our Portrait of this distinguished divine and pillar of the Church of England is from an original likeness, taken expressly for the National Gallery, by Mr. Wright. Painted under the inspection of his lady and family, it represents him at the venerable period of life which he has now attained; with still many means to enjoy the calm of dignified retirement, after the labours of so long and so arduous a career. The mind so active as well as studious during a long course of years—devoted to and adorning the cause of learning—maintaining with all its strength and energy the faith of its conviction, and the pure religion of its profession; such a mind looks beautiful in the evening of mortality, while yet reflecting the chastened brightness of its original splendour, though the corporeal frame may be unequal to the more toilsome business of worldly affairs. Thus, if we have not seen Bishop Marsh of late among his brethren, taking a prominent part in the arduous duties to which their high stations, and the circumstances of the times, peculiarly call them; we learn with gratification, that his more pastoral charges yet demand and obtain his enlightened care, and that his health enables him to divide his time between the needful attention to advancing days, and the superintendence of the diocese for which he has already effected so much. Long may he remain an ornament to that church, whose interests he has promoted, and whose battles he has so manfully, so successfully, and so piously fought.

Painted by. J. Hoppner. Esq. R. A.

Engraved by J. Andrews.

ADAM DUNCAN, VISCOUNT DUNCAN.

Duncan

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1831.

ADMIRAL VISCOUNT DUNCAN,

OF CAMPERDOWN, ETC. ETC. ETC.

WE doubt whether any individual can have a sincere love for his country, who has not a warm and cordial feeling of admiration to bestow on its eminent men. Emulation is the great incentive to excellence. The young sailor who could coldly turn the page which recorded the devotion and the heroism of those

"Brave hearts! to Britain's pride
Once so faithful and so true,
On the deck of fame that died,"

wants, at least, that most noble impulse which leads us to love a great example—and follow it, till ourselves have obtained one as great. It is he who kindles as he dwells on the deeds he hopes to equal, that gives promise of being the hero to launch

"Our glorious standard once again
To meet another foe."

These are no times to encourage an idle thirst of glory for glory's sake; but let the full debt of national gratitude be paid to those who, with equal valour and ability, averted national danger. Let the life that has been risked be the life that is remembered—when the risk was for public benefit, and the memory is for public honor.

ADAM DUNCAN was born at Dundee in July, 1731. He was the second son of a very old family, which for a long series of years were lairds of Lundie, in Perthshire. Like most younger brothers, he had his way to make in the world, and entered the navy at a very early age. His progress through the first stages of this peculiarly hard and dangerous profession presents nothing remarkable. In 1761 he was appointed Post-Captain of the Valiant, and was with Admiral Lord Keppel at the taking of the Havannah. The friendship thus commenced was as lasting as it was sincere: as soon as his Lordship was appointed to a flag, he named Duncan for his Captain. Captain Duncan was one of the officers on the court-martial which tried Lord Keppel; but their intimacy remained the same to the day of his death. An old standard friendship is creditable to both parties. From the rank of Rear-Admiral, which he was made in 1787, he rose to that of Vice-Admiral in 1793; and, in 1795, he was appointed Admiral of the Blue.

His marriage with a niece of the late Lord Melville, a daughter of the Right Honorable Robert Dundas, Lord President of the Court of Session, gave him the support of powerful interest; and were family interest always as justifiably exerted, it had never needed a defence.

The service on which Admiral Duncan was employed was both arduous and severe; it was the North Sea station—and a winter in such latitudes, and at sea, is some treat to a man of sixty-five! The spirit of mutiny which then disorganized the British navy, made the service of blockade one of extreme difficulty. But, notwithstanding a succession of uncommonly stormy weather, and the insubordination of the fleet, Admiral Duncan, by a vigilance as active as it was untiring, effectually imprisoned the enemy in their ports. In the summer of 1797 the mutiny was at its height; but though left with only three ships, he daringly retained his station off the Texel; and not one Dutch vessel succeeded in escaping a blockade, whose vigilance was almost equally important in its consequences as the after victory. On board his own ship, the Admiral was loved and obeyed—but on this head let him speak for himself. At the period when the aspect of the mutiny was most appalling, he assembled his men upon the deck of the Venerable, and addressed them thus with Roman, or, let us rather say, with British simplicity:—

"My lads—I once more call you together, with a sorrowful heart, from what I have lately seen—the disaffection of the fleets; I call it *disaffection,* for the crews have *no grievances.* To be deserted by my fleet, in the face of an enemy, is a disgrace which I believe never before happened to a British Admiral: nor could I have supposed it possible. My greatest comfort under God is, that I have been supported by the officers, seamen, and marines of *this ship;* for which, with a heart overflowing with gratitude, I request you to accept my sincere thanks.

"I flatter myself much good may result from your example, by bringing those deluded people to a sense of the duty which they owe, not only to their King and Country, but to themselves. The British navy has ever been the support of that liberty which has been handed down for us by our ancestors, and which, I trust, we shall maintain to the latest posterity; and that can only be done by unanimity and obedience.

"This ship's company, and others who have distinguished themselves by their loyalty and good order, deserve to be, and doubtless *will be,* the favourites of a grateful country; they will also have from their inward feelings a comfort which must be lasting, and not like the fleeting and false confidence of those who have swerved from their duty!

"It has often been my pride with you to look into the Texel, and see a foe which dreaded coming out to meet us.—My pride is *now* humbled indeed! My feelings are not easily to be expressed!—Our cup has overflowed, and made us wanton. The all-wise Providence has given us this check as a warning, and I hope we shall improve by it. On Him, then, let us trust, where our *only* security can be found.

"I find there are many good men among us; for my own part, I have had full confidence of all in this ship—and once more beg to express my approbation of your conduct.

"May God, who has thus far conducted you, continue to do so; and may the British navy, the glory and support of our country, be restored to its wonted splendour, and be not only the bulwark of Britain, but the terror of the world! But this can only be effected by a strict adherence to our duty and obedience; and let us pray that the Almighty God may keep us in the right way of thinking. God bless you all!"

The effect of personal influence was never more happily illustrated than by this speech. We have heard from one of the common seamen present, that there was not a dry eye among the crew.

The object of the imprisoned fleet was to invade Ireland, as has since been ascertained. Could the French have effected their object in landing troops, these islands must have suffered all those horrors which being the actual seat of war entails, and from which we have been hitherto so happily exempt. After incessant and most harassing watch, Admiral Duncan was forced to put into Yarmouth to refit, leaving Captain Trollope on the look-out. The Batavian Admiral seized the opportunity, and put to sea. Captain Trollope lost not a moment in conveying the intelligence, and all Admiral Duncan's movements were decided upon, and regulated, with a readiness and promptitude rarely equalled. With a masterliness of naval manœuvering, which has elicited as much admiration from the judges in nautical tactics, as its success has won from the public in general, the British Commander threw himself between the Batavian fleet and the Texel; so that a return to their harbour, without an engagement, was impossible. The battle took place between Camperdown and Egmont, along a peculiarly shallow (nine fathoms' water) and dangerous coast. Admiral Duncan's own ship broke the enemy's line of battle, and engaged alongside with Admiral de Winter, who, after a most gallant resistance, was forced to strike. The moment the victory was decided, Admiral Duncan assembled his crew, and, kneeling down on the red and smoking deck, returned thanks to God. The silence, in an element which one half-hour before had been alive with earthly thunder, was now only broken by the voice of the veteran Admiral offering up a thanksgiving, to be afterwards echoed by a nation.

The joy with which the news was received in England was commensurate with its importance. A day of general thanksgiving was appointed, and for years afterwards "the Fight off Camperdown" was the one popular ballad which was sure to collect its crowd of listeners. The brave old Admiral was created Lord Viscount Duncan of Camperdown, and Baron Duncan of Lundie, in Perthshire. At the same time a pension of £3000 per annum was granted to himself and the two next heirs of the peerage; for though through the death of his elder brother, Colonel Duncan, he had inherited his patrimonial estate, its rental was barely five hundred pounds a year. Pension lists have recently been published, and made the object of much comment; yet no one, even in our days of calculation and caution, but would think such reward was just and deserved. The Chancellor's speech, when Lord Duncan was introduced into the House of Lords, well imbodies these sentiments.

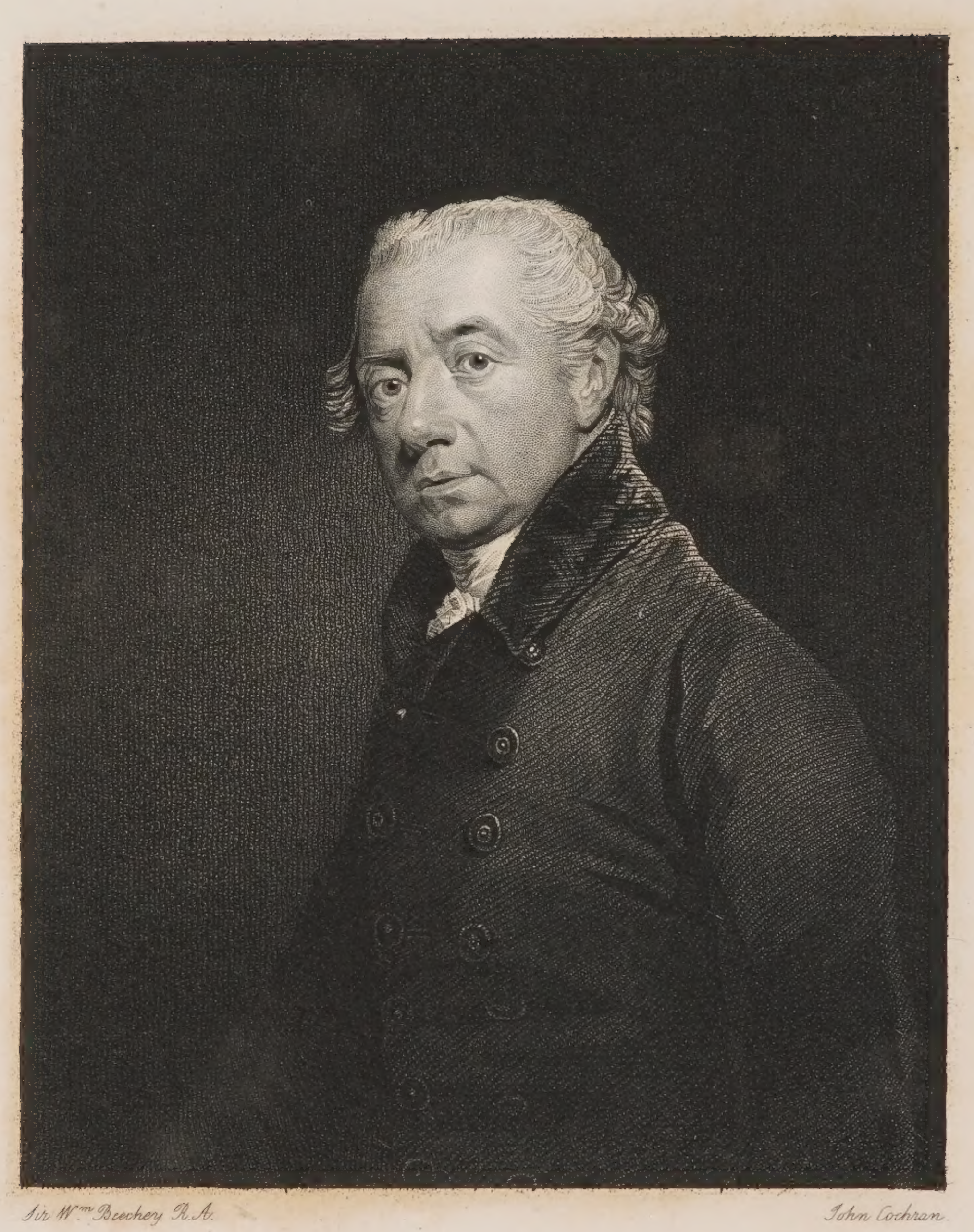
"He congratulated his Lordship upon his accession to the honor of a distinguished seat in that place, to which his very meritorious and *unparalleled* professional conduct had deservedly raised him; that conduct (the Chancellor added) was such as not only merited the thanks of their Lordships' House, but the gratitude and applause of the country at large; it had been instrumental, under the auspices of Providence, in establishing the security of his Majesty's dominions, and frustrating the ambitious and destructive designs of the enemy."

Indeed, the peculiarity of the crisis at which this great triumph was achieved, as well as its being a victory over the best sailors of the continent of Europe, conferred upon it a degree of interest and splendour which few of our greatest naval and national exploits could boast. With the exception, perhaps, of the immortal names of the Nile and Trafalgar, the memory of Camperdown will long hold its place as one of the proudest of Britain's "deeds of fame." The mighty object of the enemy, the preceding fearful state of our force, the equality of the combatants, the skill and talent displayed by the English commander, all combined to throw a lustre over the battle, which was reflected from every corner of the kingdom.—Patriotic exultation seemed to be at its height—every thing was of "Camperdown," from the ribbons of peasants to the illuminations of cities, and the applause of the senate and the throne.

The after conduct of the conqueror, likewise, added much to the lustre of his character. A life of honorable service, but unattended with any opportunity to render that which was most meritorious also most brilliant, had passed away; so that Admiral Duncan, though duly appreciated by his brethren in arms as an officer of transcendent abilities, was not so well known to the general public. His admirable conduct, therefore, on this splendid occasion, partook somewhat of the nature of an unexpected glory; and the people rejoiced in the assurance which it gave, that wheresoever the duty was confided, Britannia would rule the waves. The result only brought the veteran's past deserts more forcibly into light; and the modesty and piety with which he wore his laurels, crowned him with a yet more unfading wreath at the time, which will flourish for ages to come.

Lord Duncan died on the fourth of August, 1804, and was succeeded by his son, Robert Dundas Duncan Haldane, the present Viscount.

His character in private was most amiable; and while we trust not again to require such services as those of his public life, we equally trust that such service would be rendered, if so required. An example like Lord Duncan is a legacy of honor and encouragement to the British navy.



Sir Wm. Beechey R.A.

John Cochran

JOHN HEAVISIDE, ESQ. F.R.S. F.A.S. &c.

Surgeon Extraordinary to his Majesty, George 3rd

John Heaviside

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1831.

JOHN HEAVISIDE, ESQ. F.R.S.

SURGEON TO HIS MAJESTY, ETC. ETC. ETC.

In our present Part of the "National Portrait Gallery," the conjunction of its Memoirs may be likened to the British Constitution; for we have King, Lord, and Commoner to fill its various pages.

Mr. Heaviside, the subject of this brief sketch, long held a very distinguished rank among the eminent men of his day in the medical profession; so long, indeed, that he might justly be said to pertain to two generations. He was the son of John Heaviside, of Hatfield, Hertfordshire—also a highly-esteemed and celebrated practitioner in surgery, as appears from the following inscription upon his monument in Hatfield church:

"Sacred to the Memory of John Heaviside, Esq. who, to the manifold advantage of this place, and the general benefit of no narrow circuit, was for more than thirty years a resident Surgeon in this town. In the knowledge of his profession, nay, the whole scope of medicine, he was eminently skilled; for, to the strongest natural impulse after excellence, there was united happily a sound and ready judgment, matured through a long course of practice, by observations useful to mankind. His retirement from public business, which happened years before his death, was nevertheless made serviceable to society by all the means that friendship or humanity could suggest: active, indefatigable, he was still the first to fly to merit in distress, and the last to quit it. He was esteemed and distinguished by great and valuable personages—great from their respectability, as from their rank; and valuable, from their enlarging his frequent powers of doing good."

"John Heaviside, Esq. died 14th February, 1787, aged 69. His widow, Mary Heaviside, whose conjugal affection, Christian piety, and maternal love, now receive their reward. If a tribute like this to her memory could avail, then would her son, whose daily* attention to the last period of her life, breathed filial gratitude, inscribe all her virtues on this stone. She died 8th March, 1792, aged 77 years."

This biographical Epitaph affords us as much of the ancestral history of Mr. Heaviside as we require. John, their son, was born about 1748. Being destined to his father's profession, he was apprenticed to Mr. Dance, an apothecary at Barnet; but, at the age of eighteen, he ran from his bonds, and took refuge in the Metropolis. Hither he was followed by his father, who discovered him in a dirty court, and, after a thorough lecturing, carried him to Mr. Pott, with whom, at Saint Bartholomew's Hospital, he remained four years. He then went into business for himself in East Street, Red Lion Square; whence he removed to lodgings in Mortimer Street, having in the mean time married, greatly to the displeasure of his father, and, as it turned out, not very happily for himself. Be this, however, as it might, his son and successor was born in Mortimer Street during the riots of 1780.

Ten years previously to this, and about six months before he settled in London, Mr. Heaviside had bought for £1600 the commission of surgeon in the Horse Grenadier Guards, one of those excellent bargains which the old practice of trafficking in such matters rendered not uncommon, until our military government was so essentially reformed and purified. The pay was £146 per annum, and as Mr. H. enjoyed it about fifty-eight years, he not only repaid himself principal and interest, but cleared some £5000 by his purchase. The appointment, too, was a valuable introduction to general practice; and, together with the abilities of Mr. H., gradually and surely led him to the consideration he attained.

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* In London, whither she came in her widowhood.

JOHN HEAVISIDE, ESQ.

In 1787 he had acquired so much celebrity by his skill in performing difficult operations, that he was competent to take, and consequently to buy, the large freehold house in George Street, Hanover Square, where he resided to the period of his death; the centre, as it were, of one of the most respectable medical circles of which the vast capital of the British empire could boast. Mr. Heaviside, indeed, was intimate with a large number of the eminent persons of his day; and was, we believe, one of the first of those who set the example, since so much followed, of assembling literary and scientific men together on stated occasions, for the advantage of mutual communication, and the diffusion of knowledge. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and appointed Surgeon to His Majesty, George the Third.

Among the memorabilia of his early life, and long before these honors were achieved, he had become a member of the Eumelian Club, founded by the senior Dr. Ashe, where he made the acquaintance of many of those individuals, who, leaving England for France, took a conspicuous share in the French revolution, and were, nearly without an exception, ultimately banished or guillotined.

Another of the principal events of his life arose out of his professional attendance at the fatal duel between Colonel Montgomery and Captain Macnamara, in 1802. For this he was committed to Newgate, and during a whole fortnight subjected to much pain and anxiety. His friends Messrs. Erskine and Garrow, (to the father of the latter of whom he had gone to school,) Mr., afterwards Baron Wood, and others, volunteered their aid; but still the dread of a capital conviction, and with it the forfeiture of his property, made his situation seriously uncomfortable. In this dilemma, his brokers, Messrs. Johnson and Longden, sold out all his stock, which, together with the rest of his possessions, was conveyed to a third party for safety; and to the credit of these gentlemen it should be told, that, though the amount must have been an object to be desired, yet, under the circumstances of the case, they transacted the business without the charge of a single farthing. In the end, the grand jury having ignored the bill against Mr. Heaviside, it so happened that all these precautions were unnecessary.

"On the 10th of June, 1824," we find from the Gentleman's Magazine, "died the wife of Mr. Heaviside, the celebrated Surgeon;" and, in October, 1828, he himself submitted to the common lot, at the advanced age of eighty. He died at Hampstead; and was succeeded in his estate of Geddons, near Hatfield, and a very considerable fortune, by his only son.

In character, Mr. Heaviside was a practical matter-of-fact man; and guiltless (as several anecdotes we have heard might prove) of imaginativeness or fancy. He loved the pleasures of life, and enjoyed them as much as most men engaged in active occupation, during all his extended career. His social habits therefore, his intercourse with multitudes of the various classes which make the prodigious mass of London, and his widely-spread employment as a Surgeon, rendered him almost universally known: nor was he less universally appreciated and regarded. But even such a professional course is unproductive of those striking incidents which demand the notice of the biographer; and we have now only to conclude our brief sketch, by expressing our thanks to Mr. Howship, his pupil, assistant, and very skilful successor, to whom we are indebted for most of our dates and materials.